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GOVERNMENT OF THE
CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR



RASHTRIYA
SWAYAM SEWAK SANGH

ORGANIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT

EACH DISTRICT OF C. P. AND BERAR

AT THE END OF THE

YEAR 1942

2

NAGPUR
GOVERNMENT PRINTING, C. P. & BERAR
1943

Strictly Secret D. O. No. 1465-890-Con., dated Pachmarhi, the 19th October 1942, from T. C. S. Jayaratnam, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., Chief Secretary to Government, Central Provinces and Berar, to all Deputy Commissioners, Central Provinces and Berar

Government would be glad if you will, in consultation with the District Superintendent of Police, collect full particulars of the organization of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in your district and its membership. It may also be ascertained who the leading organizers are. The information is required in order to have as full a record as possible of Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh activities in each district. This information may please be collected as expeditiously and as unostentatiously as possible and a report submitted to Government.

No. 1466-890-Con.

Pachmarhi, the 19th October 1942.

Copy forwarded to all Commissioners of Divisions and Inspector-General of Police for information.

T. C. S. JAYARATNAM,
Chief Secy. to Govt., C. P. & Berar.

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CONTENTS

1. District Reports—	
Nagpur	1
Wardha	2
Chanda	4
Chhindwara	6
Betul	8
Jubbulpore	9
Saugor	14
Hoshangabad	18
Nimar	20
Mandla	23
Raipur	24
Bilaspur	29
Balaghat	31
Drug	32
Bhandara	33
Amraoti	38
Akola	40
Buldana	43
Yeotmal	52
2. Extracts from half-yearly report on volunteer organizations from May to November 1942	55
3. Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh Officers' Training Camp held at Nagpur in 1943	57
4. Minutes of the Fourth Security Conference held at Nagpur on 8th and 9th March 1943 . .	61
5. Summary of the District Reports	63
6. Appendix—Miscellaneous Special Branch reports on the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh and Hindu Mahasabha, 1942	67

DISTRICT REPORTS

NAGPUR DISTRICT

D. O. No. 4252, dated Nagpur, the 16th November 1942, from the Deputy Commissioner, Nagpur

Kindly refer to your strictly secret D. O. No. 1465-890-Con., dated the 19th October 1942. The details required regarding the organization of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in this district and its membership are as follows.

2. The Sangh is an all-India organization started by the late Dr. K. B. Hedgewar on Dashera day in 1925. The aim of the Sangh is to protect the Hindu race, religion and culture, and to achieve the progress and regeneration of the Hindu community. It is desired to infuse a spirit of collective life amongst the Hindus and to utilize the spirit thus created for nation-building purposes. The chief organizer for India is Mr. Madhaorao Sadashivrao *alias* Guruji Golwalkar who is known as Sar Sangh Chalak. The organizer for Nagpur is Mr. M. N. Ghatate who is assisted by Mr. Madhukar *alias* Balasaheb, son of Dattatraya Deoras, and in the case of interior Mr. K. B. Vaidya, Advocate, who in turn is assisted by Mr. Vasant Ramchandra Padhye. Branches of the Sangh are being established all over India and propagandists from Nagpur are also sent to other places. There are nearly 48 branches of the Sangh in Nagpur proper and about 30 in the interior of the district. The total membership of the Sangh is roughly 7,000. This includes 2,000 youths. Of the 7,000 members, 2,000 come from the interior of the district. All members make voluntary subscription to the Sangh on a special day which is observed by every branch of the Sangh according to convenience. The total donations are deposited in the head office which is situated at Salubai Mohite's Bada in circle No. 6, Nagpur city.

3. Officers' training camps are conducted annually in the summer and last for about 40 days. Organizers are trained at these camps and uniformity of programme is aimed at in order that all branches can be run on similar lines. Camps are opened at important centres in order to suit the convenience of the members. A rough programme is that the members either assemble in the evening or morning for about an hour and undergo various kinds of physical and military training, while lectures are also delivered. The Sangh also observes important Hindu festivals and on such days small outdoor camps are arranged. Owing to the disturbances this year, the principal day on which subscriptions are raised was not observed but subscriptions were collected and deposited in the head office. The total amount collected is reported to be about Rs. 17,000, most of which is deposited in the Provincial Co-operative Bank or with individual banks, such as those of Mr. Ghatate or Mr. Chitnavis of Nagpur.

4. The Sangh is an independent organization which is not affiliated to any political or communal organization but has definite communal objects.

WARDHA DISTRICT

D. O. No. 1036, dated Wardha, the 14th November 1942,
from the Deputy Commissioner, Wardha

Kindly refer to your strictly secret D. O. No. 1465-890-Con., dated the 19th October 1942, regarding the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh. I enclose herewith a copy of the District Superintendent of Police's report, which gives the necessary information.

Copy of memo. No. Q, dated the 11th November 1942, from the District Superintendent of Police, Wardha, to the Deputy Commissioner, Wardha.

A branch of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh was first established at Wardha in the year 1928. As the Sangh advocated organization of Hindu community to oppose the inroads of Muhammadans and other communities on it, it caught the fancy of Hindu youths, mostly Maharashtrians, and since then the Sangh has made rapid progress. At present, there are 112 branches throughout the district and the total membership is about 4,000. For their own administrative purposes, Dhamangaon taluq is included in Wardha district. I have, however, excluded it in my report. The members of the Sangh contribute handsome subscriptions on Guru Dakshina day. The amount collected generally ranges from Rs. 8,000 to Rs. 10,000. Each branch keeps its own collection, which is generally spent over camps and training classes. Previously many youths used to be attracted to this organization on account of its glamour of parades and military training. But, since the promulgation of the orders prohibiting wearing of military uniform, the Sangh has stopped all military training and parades. However, they have been holding camps and summer training classes. In the year 1938, the enmity between the Sangh boys and the members of the Pratap Vyayam Shala, a Congress organ, culminated in "marpits". Offences of rioting were put up in court, but since then there have been no recurrences like those. The following are the leading organizers of the Sangh :—

- (1) Hari *alias* Appaji Krishna Joshi, Wardha.
- (2) Rambhau Laxman Tankhiwale, Pleader, Wardha.
- (3) R. N. Deshpande, Pleader, Wardha.
- (4) G. M. Pande, Pleader, Wardha.
- (5) S. R. Deshpande, Pleader, Wardha.
- (6) M. B. Deshpande, Pleader, Wardha.
- (7) G. N. Kawley, Pleader, Wardha.
- (8) G. S. Harkare, Pleader, Wardha.
- (9) S. N. Limaye, Pleader, Wardha.
- (10) M. D. Kolte, Pleader, Wardha.
- (11) S. B. Halwai, Wardha.
- (12) Shanker Rao Vaidya, Wardha.
- (13) G. T. Subnis, Pleader, Hinganghat.
- (14) N. B. Mulmule, Pleader, Hinganghat.
- (15) G. N. Nagle, Pleader, Hinganghat.
- (16) K. D. Singru, Pleader, Hinganghat.
- (17) G. N. Pendke, Hinganghat.
- (18) Babaji Gane, Mandgaon, S. H. Hinganghat.

- (19) Nilkanth Gajanan Wakhare, Hinganghat.
- (20) Anna Abaji, Brahmin, Taroda, S. H. Hin
- (21) Vinayakrao Khati, Allipur, S. H. Wadner.
- (22) Kesheorao Narale, Malguzar, Karanja.
- (23) Narayanrao Vyagra, Malguzar, Thanegaon, H.
Karanja.
- (24) Bhau Puranik, Pulgaon.
- (25) Anna Sahib Virul, S. H. Pulgaon.
- (26) Pandurang Balkrishna Sunar, Anji, S. H. Kharangna.
- (27) Marotrao Ramji Teli, Kasarkheda, S. H. Kharangna.
- (28) Nanaji Madhorao, Brahmin, Kachnur, S. H. Kharangna.
- (29) Bhalchandra Mahadeorao, Brahmin, Seloo.
- (30) Narayan Balkrishna Deshpande, Seloo.
- (31) Murlidhar Nathulal Khatri, Hingpi, S. H. Seloo.
- (32) Sahibrao Sitaram Katkar of Moi, S. H. Seloo.
- (33) Sheshrao Ganesh Pande, Antargaon, S. H. Seloo.
- (34) Knahaiyalal Nathulal Kalwar, Sindi.
- (35) Dada Govind Deshpande, Palasgaon, Sindi.
- (36) Dr. Devidas Raghunath Deshpande, Arvi.
- (37) G. W. Khare, Pleader, Arvi.

CHANDA DISTRICT

No. 1081-S.T., dated Chanda, the 28th October 1942, from the Deputy Commissioner, Chanda

Copy of statement below forwarded to the Chief Secretary to Government, Central Provinces and Berar, Nagpur/Commissioner, Nagpur Division, Nagpur, for information, with reference to Political and Military Department D. O. No. 1465-890-Con., dated the 19th October 1942.

List of Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh branches, with their location, office-bearers, etc.

The object of the association is to organize all the Hindus as one community for their betterment in all respects, particularly physical.

1. *Chanda (established 1926).*—Sangh Chalak—Narayan Pandurang Bhagwat, Pleader. Vice-President—Balkrishna Ganpatrao Sadhankar, Pleader. Senapati—Purushottam Tatiaji Puranik, teacher, New Model High School. Members—300. The branch is in a flourishing condition.

2. *Warora (established 1935).*—Taluqa Sangh Chalak—Gopal Wasudeo Pendke, Pleader. Taluqa Sah Sangh Chalak—Shrinivas Purushottam Sirmukaddam, Pleader. Nagar Sangh Chalak—Govind Shrihari Deshpande, Pleader. Members—30. The branch is in a flourishing condition.

3. *Mul (established 1940).*—President—R. S. Kashirao Fadnavis. Sangh Chalak—Diwakarrao Bokhare. Senapati—Narhari Marathe, Schoolmaster. Drill instructors—(i) Babu Balvant Khati, Brahmin, and (ii) Shankarrao Sadashiv Pimpalkhute, rahmin. Members—30, mostly schoolboys.

4. *Bhadrawati (established 1936).*—Sangh Chalak—Babu alias Nilkanth, son of Laxmanrao. Updeshaks—(i) Jageshwar Yette Gurao, and (ii) Govind Ghodmade Barai. Captain—Kisan Jungare Marar. Members—60.

5. *Chamorshi (established 1939).*—President—Bhaiyaji, alias Sadashiva, son of Keshorao. Secretary—Rajaiya, son of Onkar Jangam. Members—25. The branch is inactive.

6. *Brahmapuri (established 1937).*—Taluqa Sangh Chalaks—(i) Bhashkarrao Bhusari, Pleader, and (ii) Madhorao Kalikar, Malguzar. Members—50.

7. *Chimur (established 1927).*—Instructor—Annaji Murli-dhar Siras, rahmin. Members—30.

8. *Dhaba (established 1936).*—President—Khushalrao Hastak, Brahmin. Secretary—Nanaji Peshkar, Brahmin. Members—20. The branch is not in a flourishing state. Lathi-kathi being practised.

9. *Gondpipri, Dhaba S. H. (established 1936).*—President—Warlu Gond, Malguzar. Secretary—Bapuji Panchal. Members—10. The branch is not in a flourishing state. Lathi-kathi being practised.

10. *Nagbhir (established 1935)*.—President—Mahadeo Buchappa Wani. Secretary—Sakharam Gomaji Kale. Sangh Chalak and cashier—Manohar Moreshwar Kallawar Koskati. Members—25. The branch is not in a flourishing state. Lathi-kathi being practised.

11. *Talodi (established 1938)*.—President—Popatbhai Kalidas Bhatia. Secretary—Yadao Jairam Komti. Cashier—Rajeshwar Jairam Komti. Members—20. The branch is not in a flourishing state. Lathi-kathi being practised.

12. *Newargaon [Sindewahi] (established 1938)*.—President—Balaji Deoram Patel. Secretary—Dina Laxman Kosti. Manager—Govinda Hari. Members—40.

13. *Armori (established 1936)*.—President—Narayanrao Niral. Members—200.

N. B.—Any additions or corrections will be reported later.

CHHINDWARA DISTRICT

D. O. No. 686, dated Chhindwara, the 14th November 1942,
from the Deputy Commissioner, Chhindwara

Please refer to Political and Military Department secret
D. O. 1465-890-Con., dated the 19th October 1942. I enclose a
statement giving particulars of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak
Sangh organization in this district.

Branches of Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh.

Location	Office-bearers and members	Remarks
	President—Ramprasad Singh Rathod, Pleader. Vice-President—H. N. Huddar, Malguzar. Under Secretary and Treasurer—K. R. Jamte. Instructors—(1) Narayana Rao, Maratha, (2) T. R. Astputre and (3) Onkarprasad Chaurasia. Members—200. Membership increasing.	Funds Rs. 200. Activities are limited to the physical exercises and drill. Government's restrictions on uniform, drill, etc., are being observed. Active. Office-bearers are influential and wealthy persons. The object of the organization is to inspire nationalism and self-confidence in Hindus. Potentially dangerous.
	No office-bearers. Sanghchalak—Pandharinath, son of Balaji Chahutre, Pandhurna. Members—100. Membership not increasing.	Funds Rs. 10. Activities dull and limited to the boy members of the Sangh playing Indian games. Government's restrictions being observed strictly. Inactive. Holds no position or influence. Mr. R. P. Chitle, Signaller, G. I. P. Rly., Nilkanthrao Fadnavis, Teacher, Anglo-Vernacular Middle School, are the sympathizers.
	Sanghchalak—Sukhnandan Talokchand Aglakhe, Local Board Head Clerk, Sausar. Instructor—Someshwar Ramchandra Pimpalgaonkar of Nagpur. Members—40. Membership not increasing.	Funds Rs. 27. Indian games and physical exercises. Government's restrictions being observed. Present activities are limited mainly to create unity amongst Hindus. Not an influential body. Not dangerous.
		Funds Rs. 9. Indian games and physical exercises. Government's restrictions being observed. Present activities are limited mainly to create unity amongst Hindus. Not an influential body. Not dangerous.
Berdih (S.-H. Sausar).	Sanghchalak—Bhaiya Bansod, Members—27. Membership not increasing.	Funds nil. Indian games and physical exercises. Government's restrictions being observed. Present activities are limited mainly to create unity amongst Hindus. Not an influential body. Not dangerous.
Chaurai		In June last attempts were made by Eknath Ranade of Nagpur to establish a branch here and five members nominated. Did not materialize.

Office-bearers and members	Remarks
<p>President—Nil. Organizer and Secretary—Moreshwar Hari Ketkar and Govind Patel of Seoni. Members—(1) Ramshankar Agnihotri and (2) Baburao Zade. Members—150 to 200.</p>	<p>Murlidhar, son of Krishnarao, Brahmin, of Circle No. 9, visited the place in October last but failed.</p> <p>Funds not known. Indian games and physical exercises. Government's restrictions in g observed. Active. It is an anti-uslim organization at the exclusive supremacy of the Hindus. Chief aim to cultivate physi l and moral development and unity.</p>
<p>President—Mangal Prasad, Sunar, of Kanhiwara. Secretary—M ot i l a l, Barai. Organizer—A n d Prasad, Sunar. Members—(1) Gangaram, Teli, (2) Bhairolal, Barai, (3) Kapurchand, Sunar, and (4) Gopichand Agarwal. Members—30 to 50.</p>	<p>Funds not known. Indian games and physical exercises. Government's restrictions being observed. Active. It is an anti-uslim organization at the exclusive supremacy of the Hindus. Chief aim to cultivate physical and moral development and unity. It has recently been formed.</p>
<p>Hinotiya (S.-H. Kanhiwara). Organizers—(1) Mallu, (2) Tika Chhipa Members—15.</p>	<p>Do do.</p>

BETUL DISTRICT

D. O. No. 176, dated Betul, the 13th November 1942, from the Deputy Commissioner, Betul

Kindly refer to your D. O. No. 1465-890-Con., dated the 19th October 1942. The particulars about the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in this district are as below :—

Betul town.—The organizer is Mr. L. S. Deshpande, Pleader, and Mr. N. B. Wathodker, Pleader, acts as its secretary. One Gopalrao Joshi is the instructor. There are about 30 members, mostly Maharashtra boys. The organization has no funds nor have there been any rallies, training camps, etc., within the past six months or so. Only a few school boys use to drill themselves occasionally without any uniform. About a month ago one Nawegaonkar of Nagpur had come here with the object of reviving the organization, but he met with no success. It is reported that he may come to Betul again with the same object.

Multai town.—The Sangh is being run by one Govindrao *alias* Abaji Joshi assisted by Messrs. G. K. Huddar, A. Dubey and T. N. Bhargava, Pleaders. There are about 31 members and they have physical exercises daily where boys are taught the use of lathi and *Kabaddi*.

Amra village.—There are about 12 members but the Sangh has not been functioning at all since the organizer Narayan Dattare left the place.

2. There are no branches of the Sangh elsewhere in district.

JUBBULPORE DISTRICT

D. O. No. C-Pol., dated Jubbulpore, the 21st December 1942,
from the Deputy Commissioner, Jubbulpore

Would you please refer to your D. O. No. 1465-890-Con., dated the 19th October 1942? I send herewith police report giving full particulars of the organization of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in Jubbulpore district.

Report, dated the 15th December 1942, from the L. I. B. (S. B.), Jubbulpore, on the activities of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh at Jubbulpore.

The Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, whose activities are on increasing scale possibly may have no immediate object of taking to subversive programme for some time in future.

This organization which is backed by V. D. Sawarkar and his followers like Dr. B. S. Moonje who firmly believe in the importance of military training to instil a sense of discipline in the Hindu youths of the country and make them physically fit for the attainment of their desired goal—Independence—in due course, are also sponsors of Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh movement.

V. D. Sawarkar's policy to encourage Hindu youths to avail of the opportunity by enlisting Hindu youths in the present war has a deep-seated motive behind. These leaders might not like to interfere with the present administration in view of their present policy and might like to take their own time by which large number of Hindu youths in the country were sufficiently trained in military tactics to bring about a revolution in India to achieve independence and to maintain the same. This would naturally take a pretty long time.

It has been made sufficiently clear by the Hindu Sabhaites during the course of their usual talks that V. D. Sawarkar does not think that time was ripe for revolution in the country.

Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh organization, in the opinion of these leaders, which is yet to be sufficiently organized for the said purpose is likely to take every precaution to avoid its being brought to the notice of the Government adversely whereby Government may not be able to declare the organization illegal or check its progress to the detriment of the interests of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh.

The organization as a whole remained aloof from the present subversive activities indulged in by the Congressmen. No adverse reports were received about the Sangh's activities from Station-House Officers in the district. Instructions have been however issued to all the Station-House Officers to make further efforts in the light of S. B. circular No. 94, dated Nagpur, the 3rd November 1942, to find out and report inside informations about the Sangh's secret activities and preparations which are clearly not being made without some purpose, although it is not known exactly what the Sangh intends to do.

At the time of the Dasahra celebrations held on 24th October 1942 at Jubbulpore at which the contingents from tahsil places in the district and from Narsinghpur and Mandla were present, the volunteers did not wear uniforms. No boots, putties or shoulder badges were worn. The drill of a military nature was avoided.

Only two persons, namely, K. B. Agnihotri, organizer of Sihora Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, and Lattu *alias* Suraj Chandra Bani, an instructor of Shahpura Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh were detained under Defence of India Rules because of their pro-Congress activities.

The list of important persons whose arrest would be necessary is kept ready in case the necessity should ever arise to declare the Sangh an illegal organization.

Report, dated the 15th December 1942, by the I. I. B. (S. B.), Jubbulpore, on the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh organization in the Jubbulpore district.

The Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh organization came into existence here on 23rd December 1935. It was organized by Kunjilal Dube, Advocate, Jubbulpore, under the guidance of late Dr. K. B. Hedgewar and since then the Sangh is becoming more and more popular every year. The aim and object of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh has been so far to protect the Hindu culture, to organize the Hindus of the country and also to improve the physique of the Hindu youths.

At present the following are the branches of the Sangh in Jubbulpore town :—

- (1) Golebazar, (2) Dixitpura, (3) Tilak Bhumi Talaiya, (4) Hanumantal, (5) Ghamapore, (6) Robertson College, (7) Gorukhpore, and (8) Shreenath Ki Talaiya.

Besides the above-mentioned branches the Sangh also has its branches in Katni, Sihora, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura, Garha and Barela.

Each of the above branches are in charge of one organizer and there is an instructor to train the volunteers in parade, lathi drill, physical exercises and outdoor games. Occasionally Ram Prasad Tiwari, Advocate, Jubbulpore, district organizer of Jubbulpore, visits the branches in the district. Formerly the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh volunteers used to put on khaki uniform with badges including boots and putties, but in obedience to the Government's restrictions on the wearing of uniforms, no uniforms were worn by the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh volunteers.

At present the strength of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh volunteers is about 600, but only a few volunteers attend daily parades and sports held in the various branches of the Sangh. About 250 volunteers collect once a week at one place for parade and games and this is arranged by the local organizers to stimulate the enthusiasm of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh volunteers.

On 27th July 1942 about 300 volunteers of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh assembled in the Bengali Club to worship "Ochre Flag" on the occasion of Guru Purnima. Shriram Nanhoria, Advocate, was in the chair and the meeting was open only to the volunteers. Speeches were delivered by Shriram Nanhoria and Satyabrata Shastri. Both the speakers spoke on the significance and in praise of "Ochre Flag" and appealed to the volunteers to strengthen the Sangh.

"Guru Dakshina" ceremony was held on 6th September 1942 in the Bengali Club under the presidentship of Ramprasad Tiwari, the chief organizer of the Sangh. About 600 volunteers attended the meeting. The proceedings consisted of "The flag worship" and "Guru Dakshina". During the "Guru Dakshina", the chief organizer, Ramprasad Tiwari, was presented purses totalling Rs. 2,027, by the various branches of the Sangh in the district. In the end the president delivered a short speech thanking the volunteers for their purses and expressed satisfaction on subscriptions collected. He said that he expected Rs. 3,000, but Rs. 2,027, was not bad as against Rs. 1,000, collected during the previous year. He appreciated the enthusiasm of the various branches of the Sangh and appealed to the volunteers to strengthen the Sangh all the more.

During September and October 1942 the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh volunteers were busy preparing for their "Dasehra celebrations". Daily the volunteers were seen being drilled in the various branches of the Sangh, while occasionally general parades were being held in Golebazar. Prahlad Narayan Ambekar and Bibhas Chandra Banerji were noticed taking keen interest in training the volunteers.

On 24th October 1942 M. S. Golwalkar, Nagpur, nicknamed "Guruji" visited Jubbulpore and presided over the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh. Dasehra celebrations were held at the Golebazar grounds. The Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh performances consisted of marching, lathi drill, physical exercises and various games. The Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh band was also in attendance. No uniforms were worn by the volunteers nor a drill of a military nature was performed by them. On 25th October 1942, M. S. Golwalkar addressed a meeting of about 400 Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh volunteers in the Maharashtra High School premises and deplored that in a vast country like India there should be only 1,500 branches of the Sangh and 200,000 volunteers in all. He appealed each volunteer to enlist 10 more volunteers in the Sangh and to devote more of their time in the work of the Sangh. He declared that the Sangh was a non-political organization, the aims and objects of which were to make the Hindus physically fit, and to organize them with a view to safeguard the interests of the Hindus in general. He remarked that the Sangh had done some solid work for the Hindu community.

Even after their "Dasehra celebrations" the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh volunteers are doing their daily parade in the various branches of the Sangh; but they have lost all interest. The attendance is decreasing day by day.

The following names are worth mentioning with the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh :—

- (1) Ram Prasad Tiwari, Pleader—Chief Organizer,
- (2) Shriram Nanhoria, Pleader, (3) Motishanker Jha, (4) Prahlad Narayan Ambekar, (5) Bibhas Chandra Banerji, (6) Bimal Chandra Banerji, and (7) Anantram Thosar.

The above are the sponsors of this organization in Jubbulpore city and have kept up the enthusiasm of the volunteers in the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh.

Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh branches in Jubbulpore city are as follows. They are conducted by the workers noted against each branch :—

- (1) Golebazar—P. N. Ambekar.
- (2) Dixitpura—Gokul Prasad Agarwal and Anantram Thosar.
- (3) Tilak Bhumi Talaiya—Nemichand Jain and Bibhas Chandra Banerji.
- (4) Hanumantal—Ranglal Sulere.
- (5) Ghamapore—Subhas Chandra Beohar.
- (6) Robertson College—Kunjilal Dave.
- (7) Gorukhpore—Puran Singh, son of Dhanpat Singh Thakur.
- (8) Ganjipura—Sitaram Vishva Karma.

Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh at Shahpura—

There are 30 volunteers. Bhaiyalal Bani and Gopal Teli are its organizers; while instructions are imparted to the volunteers by one Lattoo alias Suraj Chandra Bani, who was detained under rule 129 of the Defence of India Rules on 2nd September 1942.

The Sangh at this place does not possess any funds and has no influence with the public.

Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh at Patan—

There are about 66 volunteers. R. P. Pande, Pleader, is the chief organizer. Phoolsingh Ghoshi is the secretary while Deepchand Bani and Tarachand Bani are its instructors. Other workers worth mentioning are Ramdayal Sunar, Lalji Khangar, Suraj Prasad Bani, Shyaal Bani, Bare Bani and Hukumchand Bani.

The Sangh has a fund of Rs. 100. It increases as the Sangh exercises good influence and is becoming popular.

Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh at Garha—

There are about 100 volunteers in it. Tekchand Chourasia, a teacher of the Maharashtra High School, imparts instructions to the volunteers in lathi drill and parade. "Guru Dakshina" was celebrated on 8th August 1942 on a large scale. The volunteers perform their daily parade at Bagha Tal from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. and 5-30 p.m. to 6-30 p.m. Jairam Teli and Shobharam Teli, both teachers of the Garha Hindi School, are the prominent workers of the Sangh.

Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh at Barela—

The Sangh has become defunct in Barela.

Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh at Katni—

There are 100 volunteers in the Sangh at present and the membership is increasing. The following are its office-bearers :—

- (1) Ramprasad Tiwari, Pleader—President.
- (2) Bajnath Mehta—Secretary.
- (3) S. X. Lonkar, teacher—Organizer and Instructor.

The Sangh does not carry much influence. 15 Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh volunteers of Jubbulpore went to Katni to witness the Dasehra function of that place.

Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh at Sihora—

There are about 55 volunteers. K. B. Agnihotri, Pleader, is the organizer, while other chief workers are Jiwan Lal Nema and R. P. Bukhshi. Surendra Nath instructs the volunteers in parade. All the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh activities regarding parade, etc., are carried out under the supervision of Anand Thosar, who occasionally visits the place and gives necessary instructions to the leaders. There are no funds; and since the arrest of K. B. Agnihotri the Sangh has practically become inactive.

SAUGOR DISTRICT

No. 376-C-Con.-42, dated Saugor, the 20th November 1942,
from the Deputy Commissioner, Saugor

Copy forwarded to T. C. S. Jayaratnam, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Chief Secretary to Government, Central Provinces and Berar,
Nagpur, in continuation of previous correspondence, with refer-
ence to his D. O. No. 1465-890-Con., dated the 19th October
1942.

*Statement of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh of the Saugor District
including Damoh Sub-Division.*

Office-bearers.—(1) Laxmi Prasad Tiwari of Dhana, at present Saugor (Sar Sangh Chalak), (2) B. L. Saraf, Pleader, Saugor (Sangh Chalak), (3) K. P. Urmil, Pleader, Saugor (Secretary), (4) M. G. Shrawne, Teacher, Moraji High School, Saugor (Chief Physical Instructor), and (5) Ram Shanker Pandya, Saugor (Group Leader).

Leading members.—(1) K. M. Tole, Pleader, (2) Manohar Shrikhande, (3) Aswant Kher, (4) K. G. Kher, (5) Vasudeo Rao Athley, (6) Mama Athley, (7) Ballo Hardikar, (8) Basant Deoshkar, (9) Shanker Keshow, (10) Gajanand, (11) Kharker, (12) Shridhar, (13) Sheo aj Singh, (14) Moghe, (15) Babu alias Bhagwant, (16) Ram-eshwar, son of Kashiram, (17) Shriram, son of Vinayak, (18) Bapu, son of Shanker Desai, (19) Purshottam Moghe, (20) Adone, Teacher, (21) Madhukar Rao, (22) Chintaman Rao, (23) Premchand, (24) Shambu Jadia, (25) Rameshwar, Sunar, (26) Komalchand Jain, (27) Shambu Dayal, (28) Gulabchand Jain, (29) Jiwan Kadam, (30) Gopal Das Mahant, (31) Lachman Itwari Tori, and (32) Krishna Sewak Parkota.

Membership about 120. Lathi, dummysword, and dagger exercises and marching practised. Have got uniforms.—(1) Khaki shirts, (2) Khaki knickers, (3) Khaki puttis, (4) Black boots, (5) Deep blue cap, and (6) Badges (shoulders) which are put on sometimes.

Office-bearers.—(1) Laxmi Prasad Tiwari of Dhana, at present Saugor (Sar Sangh Chalak), (2) B. L. Saraf, Pleader, Saugor (Sangh Chalak), (3) K. P. Urmil, Pleader, Saugor (Secretary), (4) M. G. Shrawne, Teacher, Moraji High School, Saugor (Chief Physical Instructor), (5) Ram Shanker Pandya, Saugor (Group Leader), (6) Yado Rao Kher, and (7) Mahendra Kumar [(6) and (7) Instructors].

Leading members—(1) Durga Singh, Pleader, (2) Ratan Lal Master, (3) Dr. Mukharya, (4) Baijnath Pathak, and (5) Ramgopal Banke.

Membership about 20. Lathi, sword and dagger exercises practised. Have got uniforms.—(1) Khaki shirts, (2) Khaki knickers, (3) Khaki puttis, (4) Black boots, (5) Deep blue cap, and (6) Badges (shoulders) which are put on sometimes.

Office-bearers.—(1) Sangh Chalak—B. L. Saraf, Saugor, (2) Vithal Prasad Ramgulam Choubhe, (3) Secretary—Pannalal Gupta, headmaster, Hindi School, Khurai, and (4) Jagdish Chandra Shrivastava (Leader of the Sangh at Khurai).

17

Office-bearers and members

Leading members.—(1) Durgadin, Kayasth, (2) Govind Maheshri, (3) Jamna Prasad Thakur, (4) Shrikrishna Bhatt, (5) Govind Sarvate, (6) Govind Sarvate, (7) Badri Prasad, Kayasth, (8) Basant Rao Mulley, (9) Gulabchand, Bania, (10) Amarnath, Brahmin, (11) Jamna Prasad Khuredi, (12) Kamalchand, Bania, (13) Purshottam Tamera, (14) Ramchand, Dhimar, (15) Manak Barkur, (16) Kundan, Barai, (17) Kundan, Teli, (18) Babulal Panwala, (19) Dhanna, Bania, (20) Pooran, Rajput, (21) Munnalal, Darji, (22) Durga, Darji, and (23) Purshottam Premasker.

Office-bearers.—Kalka Prasad Dube, School Master (Instructor), at present in jail in connection with Congress movement. Membership 32.

Leading members.—(1) Ramkrishna, Brahmin (in jail in connection with present movement), and (2) Panna, Kori (in jail in connection with present movement).

Office-bearers.—(1) Munshi Narayan Prasad, Kayasth, Petition-writer, Banda (Leader of the Sangh), (2) Nathuram, Lodhi, Malguzar, (3) Gorelal, Sunar, Malguzar, (4) Hargovind Bharbhunja, Malguzar, (5) Baijnath Misar, Malguzar, (6) Raghuber Prasad Vyas, Retired Sub-Inspector of Police and Malguzar, (7) Nathuram Choudhri and (8) Kanaialal, Bania. Membership about 70. Lathi exercise practised. No uniforms.

Office-bearer.—Jagdishwar (Instructor).

Membership about 10. Lathi drill exercise practised. No uniforms.

Leading members.—Nil.

Office-bearers.—(1) Munnalal, Darji (Instructor), and (2) Bhasker Rao Vakhale, Leader.

Membership about 50. Lathi drill exercise practised. No uniforms.

Leading members.—Nil.

Office-bearers.—(1) Leader—Kunjbiharilal, Pleader (in jail under section 26, Defence of India Rules), and (2) Shanker Rao Tambe, Pleader, Secretary.

Membership about 100. Lathi and lezim exercises practised. No uniforms.

Leading members.—(1) Damodhar Bhatt, Teacher, (2) Gangadhar Rao, (3) Vinayak Rao Shende, (4) Sita Rao Shende, and (5) Padam Chand, Bania.

Office-bearers.—Nil.

Membership about 8. Lathi and Indian games practised. No uniforms.

Leading member.—Mahadeo Prasad

NOTE.—The Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh at all these places are the branches under the direct control of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh at Nagpur. The main branches in the district are at Saugor and Damoh. The branches in the old Saugor district are controlled by Mr. B. L. Saraf, Pleader, and Mr. Shrawne, Teacher, in the Moraji High School. Similarly, the branches in the Damoh Sub-Division are controlled by the Damoh Leaders of the Sangh. The Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, Nagpur, generally sends some leading members from there for instructions and to supervise the working of the branches in the district.

Report on the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, Saugor.

It has come to light at Saugor that one Kesho Sadasheo Kher of Gwalior Lashkar is in correspondence with one Vimal S. Pandit, c/o Shankerrao Deoras Pandit, Mohalla Rampura, Saugor. K. S. Kher has been doing Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh propaganda in and out of Gwalior State. He describes armed violence as the latent principle of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, in attaining Swaraj and "Quit India". He has also advocated indirectly the burning of Government buildings and sabotage of railway lines to be the chief function of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh. K. S. Kher has even gone to the extent of congratulating Vimal S. Pandit of Saugor, if the latter was in the mob, which burnt Saugor post office. K. S. Kher also proposes to open an institution called "Abinav Bharat Swaraj Samiti" with its centre at Saugor. Its principle will also be to "Quit India" and use violence. K. S. Kher also mentioned that Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh claims to be the follower of Sardar Bhagat Singh and Subhas Bose.

Dr. Patwardhan of Poona and K. S. Kher of Gwalior intend to be out for enrolling youths for this propaganda work elsewhere and at Saugor.

From the above it transpires that Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh is not only a communal but also a dangerous political body.

B. L. Sharaf is the president of Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh. As the Sangh is developing into a dangerous political body, in my opinion it would be better if this organization is banned.

List of office-bearers and members.

Office-bearers—

- (1) Mr. Laxman Prasad Tiwari of Dhana, Chakraghat, Saugor—Head of the Sangh.
- (2) Bhaiyalal Saraf, Pleader, Palotangunj, Saugor—Sangh Chalak.
- (3) K. P. Uril, Pleader, Jhirna—Secretary.
- (4) M. G. Shrawne, teacher, Moraji School, Saugor—Physical Instructor.
- (5) Ramshanker Pandya, Palotangunj, Saugor—Group Leader.
- (6) K. M. Tole, Laxmipura, Saugor—Leader of the Sangh.

Members and their residence.

- (1) Manoharrao Shrikhande, Laxmipura.
- (2) Yeswant Keshao Kher, Laxmipura.
- (3) Krishna, son of G. S. Kher, Laxmipura.
- (4) Wasant Deshkar, Laxmipura.
- (5) Wasdeo Athle, Laxmipura.
- (6) Mama Athle, Laxmipura.
- (7) Baloo Haridkar, Laxmipura.
- (8) Shanker, son of Keshao, Laxmipura.
- (9) Gajanand, Laxmipura.
- (10) Karkar Rao, Laxmipura.
- (11) Shridhar Mama, Laxmipura.
- (12) Sheoraj Singh, Laxmipura.
- (13) Moghe Rao, Laxmipura.
- (14) Babu, son of Bagwansi

- (15) Rameshwar Kashiram, Brahmin, Laxmipura.
- (16) Shriram Vinayak Wakhle, Laxmipura.
- (17) Bapu Shanker Desai, Laxmipura.
- (18) Purshottam Moghe, Laxmipura.
- (19) Adoni, Teacher, Laxmipura.
- (20) Madhukar Rao, Laxmipura.
- (21) Chintaman Rao, Laxmipura.
- (22) Premchand, Palotangunj.
- (23) Shamboo Waseo Jadia, Sarafi.
- (24) Rameshwar Munnalal Sunar, Sarafi.
- (25) Balram Hazarilal Jain, Sarafi.
- (26) Komalchand Jain, Sarafi.
- (27) Shamboodayal, Chamelichowk.
- (28) Gulabchand Jain, Chamelichowk.
- (29) Jewan, Kadam Kua.
- (30) Lachhman, Itwari.
- (31) Vishnoo Shewak, Parkota.
- (32) Gopaldass Mahant, Gopalgunj.
- (33) Kunji Kori, Gopalgunj.
- (34) Radhabalabh Bajpai, Gopalgunj.
- (35) Kashiram Kumhar, Gopalgunj.
- (36) Rambharose Gujaria, Sarafi.
- (37) Barelal Janki Bhat, atra.

*Report on the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh,
Started in the year 1938.*

Organizer—Kunjbeharilal Manmohanlal Guru, Pleader, Damoh (at present in jail in the present movement, under section 26, Defence of India Rules).

Acting Organizer and Sangh Chalak—Shankerrao Bal-krishan Tambe, Pleader, Damoh.

Chief Instructors—(1) Damodar Giri Bhatt Vishnu Pant Giri, assistant school master, district council school, Hridayapur, Damoh, (2) Gangadharrao Govindrao, Maharashtra Brahmin, cultivator, Damoh.

Assistant Instructors—(1) Vinayakrao and (2) Sitaram, sons of Pandurang Shende, Vaid, Damoh; (3) Padamchand Pooranchand Seth, Damoh; (4) Bedraj, son of Bhagwandas Dua, private medical practitioner, Damoh, student, matric class, Government High School, Damoh.

Band Master—Mahesh Nathuram Agarwal, Damoh, dent, Government High School, Damoh.

Funds—About Rs. 150 collected by subscriptions.

Members—About 100 including students and others.

Details.—This Sangh is a branch of Nagpur Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh. On the start it was an ordinary organization but is increasing day by day. Recently two more branches at Patharia and Hatta have been established and a third one is also going to be started at Hindoria. This organization is meant for Hindus only in which all the parties, e.g., Hindu Mahasabha, Congress and others are mixed. At present only lathi, lezim and band training is given to the members. The activities are to make the boys bold and courageous. Some of the members have got khaki uniform but at present they are not using it.

HOSHANGABAD DISTRICT

No. B-1428, dated Hoshangabad, the 15th November 1942,
from the Deputy Commissioner, Hoshangabad

I forward herewith a statement giving full particulars of the organization of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in this district and its members. There are about 1,000 members for the whole district of the said Sangh. The membership is increasing at Hoshangabad, Timarni, Secni-Malwa and Gadarwara. Parades are held daily and instructions are given in lathi drill and at some places also in dagger and sword drill. The leading organizers in the district are Govindrao Bhuskute of Timarni, Narayan Prasad Dube of Hoshangabad, Indra Deo Singh of Hoshangabad, R. D. Swami of Gadarwara and Baldeorao Sharma of Gotegaon. Hoshangabad is the only place where the Sangh appears to have ample funds and it is reported that even Government servants have been giving subscriptions.

2. Although the Sub-Divisional Officer, Police, Narsinghpur, reports that the activities of the Sangh are non-violent, the District Superintendent of Police, Hoshangabad, does not agree to this, and I concur with the latter in the view that the Sangh is a potentially dangerous organization which would be difficult to suppress if it started any anti-Government activities. Its members are mostly students of the high school classes in bigger towns. Since the present civil disobedience movement was conducted by the school boys and college students in this province and other provinces, it is not unlikely that, if the movement revives with serious changes in the world situation or in consequence of an enemy attack on India, the Sangh would take part in it and its members would be prepared to use violence. In any case, if there is an outbreak of Hindu-Muslim trouble as a concomitant of a supposed deterioration in the world situation or of a hostile attack on India, the members of the Sangh would come forward to measure their strength against the Muslims and thus create a problem for the Government. There was a slight indication on the part of this Sangh at Hoshangabad to share in the civil disobedience movement inasmuch as its members were seen with lathis attending some meetings at Hoshangabad at which objectionable speeches were made during the present movement and it was suspected by the Station-House Officer, Hoshangabad, that these persons might use their lathis in case of a dispersal of a meeting with a lathi charge by the police on the failure of the people to disperse.

3. There is a nucleus of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh at Sainkheda also, there being only five members in the Sangh. Ramgulam Dixit of Tumra is the organizer there. For the present this place is excluded from the list. Its progress and activities are, however, being closely watched and further developments will be reported to Government.

*Statement giving particulars of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh
in the Hoshangabad district.*

Place		Number of members	Organizers	Activities
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)
Hoshangabad	..	150	(1) Narayan Prasad Dube, pleader, and (2) Indradeo Singh, pleader.	Parades are held twice (morning and evening) daily. They are instructed in lathi, sword and dagger drills, also marching and squad drill. Commands are given in Hindi. Are divided into squads (Gutts), each having ten youths. Membership increasing. No uniforms are worn.
Itarsi	..	25	M. P. Diwan ..	They meet irregularly, when only indoor games are played.
Harda	..	100	(1) Anantram Chaube, pleader, and (2) Dinkarrao Benkwar.	Parades are held twice (morning and evening) daily. Instructions are given in lathi and dagger drill, also P. T. No uniforms are worn.
Timarni	..	100	Govind Rao Buskute ..	Parades held daily. Lathi drill is taught. No uniforms are worn. Membership increasing.
Seoni-Malwa	..	100	(1) Govind Rao Bhus- kute of Timarni, and (2) Sadasheo Rao, Pleader, of Seoni- Malwa.	Parades held daily. Instructions are given in lathi drill and marching. P. T. is also taught. Membership increasing. No uniform.
Gadarwara	..	350	(1) R. D. Swami, Pleader, and (2) Ram- gopal Agnihotri.	Parades held daily. Instructions are given in lathi drill. No uniforms are worn. Membership increasing.
Kareli	..	50	Seth Tukaram Oswa! ..	No parades have been held since August.
Narsinghpur	.	100	(1) Mahendra Dutt Sharma, and (2) Seth Motilal.	Parades held daily. Instructions given in lathi drill. No uniforms are worn.
Gotegaon	.	80	(1) Baldeo Rao Sharma, and (2) Ghasiram Jain.	Parades held daily. Instructions given in lathi drill. No uniforms are worn. Membership is decreasing.

NIMAR DISTRICT

D. O. No. C-73, dated Khandwa, the 27th December 1942,
from the Deputy Commissioner, Nimar

Please refer to your D. O. No. 1465-890-Con., dated the 19th October 1942, regarding the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh. I enclose herewith a statement giving the required particulars regarding the activities of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in the Nimar district, together with a general appreciation, which has been drawn up by the District Superintendent of Police, with whose conclusions I agree. The Sangh is definitely becoming too powerful to be ignored any longer. The Sangh appears to be steering clear of political activities for the present in order to consolidate its position. After it has done that, it is bound to take part in political activities and will probably act in somewhat the same manner towards the Hindu Mahasabha that the Khaksars did to the Muslim League.

*Statement showing the particulars regarding the activities of the
Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh.*

KHANDWA TAHSIL

Khandwa (S. H. Khandwa)—

Leading organizers—Dr. Badri Narain Mahodaya, G. L. Bedekar, Pleader, D. V. Gokhale, Pleader, and Sohanlal Gupta. Members—450.

Pandhana (S. H. Pandhana)—

Leading organizers—Basant Kumar Gangrade, Bania, Malguzar, and Sukhlal Sadh, Brahmin, ex-school master. Members—130.

Diwal (S. H. Pandhana)—

Leading organizer—Karan Singh Rajput, Malguzar. Members—40.

Ghatakhedi (S. H. Pandhana)—

Leading organizer—Daulat Singh Rajput, cultivator. Members—26.

Piplod and Rustampur (S. H. Pandhana)—

Leading organizers—Anokhilal Rangara and Balkrishan Bania. Members—43.

Chhegaon (S. H. Chhegaon)—

Leading organizer—Shri _____ of Malguzar. Members—13.

Ahemedpur (S. H. Chhegaon)—

Leading organizer—Beni Prasad, headmaster. Members—16.

Barud (S. H. Chhegaon)—

Members—10.

Gandhwa (S. H. Piplod)—

Leading organizers—Ambalal Pujari, Champalal Gujrati, Malguzar, and Sitaram, son of Patel. Members—30.

Rampura (S. H. Piplod)—

Leading organizer—Vishwanath Bedekar, Malguzar. Members—30.

BURHANPUR TAHSIL

Burhanpur (S. H. Burhanpur)—

Leading organizers—Govindrao Mahajan, Ramchandrarao Jhoke, school master and Balchandrarao Bhuskutte. Members—450.

Jainabad (S. H. Burhanpur)—

Members—100.

Loni (S. H. Burhanpur)—

Members—75.

Shahpur (S. H. Shahpur)—

Leading organizers—Sheokumar Singh, Sarpanch, and Vishnu Kulkarni. Members—50.

Ichhapur (S. H. Shahpur)—

Leading organizers—Rajaram Pitare and Shanker, Brahmin. Members—50.

Phopnar Kalan (S. H. Shahpur)—

Leading organizers—Rajaram Gujar, Laxman Gujar, Meharbansingh Master, Sitaram Patel and Bhagwan Mahajan. Members—60.

Chapora (S. H. Shahpur)—

Leading organizers—Deochand Maheshwari, Bapu, Brahmin and Shriram Maratha. Members—25.

Dapora (S. H. Shahpur)—

Leading organizers—Rajaram Gujar and Raghunath Gujar. Members—60.

Nachankhera (S. H. Shahpur)—

Leading organizers—Sitaram Gujar, Jiwanram Gujar and Tukaram Gujar. Members—50.

Sarola (S. H. Shahpur)—

Leading organizers—Rambhau Kunbi, Jatan Kulati, Kanu Sunar and Nathu Mahajan. Members—50.

HARSUD TAHSIL

Harsud (S. H. Harsud)—

Leading organizers—Vishwanath Bedekar, Malguzar of Rampura, S. H. Piplod, Trimbak Jumde of Wardha and Ramchandra Gupta, son of a merchant. Members—110.

Mundi, Bir, Dudhwas and Mohad (S. H. Mundi)—

Leading organizers—Mangilal Seth, Malguzar, Anokhilal Teli, Malguzar, Umrao Mali, Siwa Brahmin, Narayanprasad, assistant master, Mulkraj Punjabi Thekedar, Bir, and Ramratan Brahmin. Members—300.

Jawar (S. H. Jawar)—

Leading organizer—Hiraji Bharud. Members—25.

Bhamgarh (S. H. Jawar)—

Leading organizers—Rao Bhi singh, Malguzar and Mangi-lal Bania. Members—150.

General appreciation.—Expansion is proceeding apace and the members in general attend the meetings assiduously. Most of the village branches are not properly organized, and all the persons who attend the classes have not been formally enrolled. The approximate numbers of men and boys who actually take part in the proceedings have been given. A good number of villagers no doubt send their sons to attend the classes to derive the benefits of physical training, without fully realising the implications of what the organization stands for. The training imparted includes lathi drill, physical exercises, games, wrestling, *lezim*, etc. A very fair state of proficiency in lathi drill has been attained at the chief centres. At certain centres sword and spear drill is also taught. Should the organization ever be used as an instrument of force to further any political campaign it would be likely to offer fairly strong resistance in those centres where it is well organized and its members systematically trained. The Sangh is influential with Maharashtrian and Marwadi classes in particular and educated Hindus in general. Its membership includes many Congress-minded persons. The organization is not yet dangerous but it is progressing towards a point where it may become so. A good deal of secrecy is observed about the meetings and conferences. Funds of the whole district organization probably amount to something less than Rs. 1,000. The restrictions with regard to drill and uniform are observed, but these do not appear altogether adequate to encompass the object in view and it may become wise to clip the wings of this Sangh further to prevent it from eventually blossoming into something akin to a political army.

25

MANDLA DISTRICT

D. O. No. C-672 of 1942, dated Mandla, the 5th November 1942, from the Deputy Commissioner, Mandla

Kindly refer to your D. O. No. 1465-890-Con., dated the 19th October 1942. I herewith enclose a statement furnished by the District Superintendent of Police after enquiry showing full particulars of the organization of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in the Mandla district. The institution here is a very poor show and its activities are chiefly confined to the physical training of boys. The members have directions not to take part in the subversive activities. So far, I did not find this institution taking any part in active politics.

Statement showing the organization of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, Mandla.

Where located—Mandla.

When established—In 1942.

President and Secretary—Nilkanth Shridco Dixit.

Vice-President—Gangadhar Shesrao Pande.

Members—35.

Object ostensible and real—To give training in lathi, and other physical games.

The organizer of this Sangh is Vidyadhar, son of Ganeshdeo of Dhantoli, Nagpur, and he is here for this work for the last three months. He is assisted in his work by Nilkanth Dixit, Ishwari Prasad and Kesheo Prasad, the persons of ordinary status of Mandla proper. The Sangh has no funds. The uniform of the volunteers is consisted of khaki shorts, white shirts, black cap and a brass badge with "R. S. S." letters. This badge is worn on right shoulder. The uniform is supplied by the member himself. The principal activity of the Sangh is to train the boys in lathi, kathi and other Indian games with a view to improve their health and to protect themselves when they are attacked. The members assemble in the evening in Sanskrit Pathshala to receive training and for this training the members bring their own sticks. The Sangh has no influence or importance at this place.

RAIPUR DISTRICT

D. O. No. 1062, dated Raipur, the 26th October 1942, from the Deputy Commissioner, Raipur

Please refer to your strictly secret D. O. No. 1465-890-Con., dated the 19th October 1942. The District Superintendent of Police, Raipur, has obtained a report from the Local Intelligence Branch on the activities of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh. I attach a copy of the report herewith.

2. The Sangh was organized in this district in 1931 at the instance of leading Maharashtriyans. The office-bearers are as follows :—

District President—Dr. Baldeo Prasad Mishra (ex-Diwan, Raigarh State).

Town President—Mr. P. Bhaduri, Advocate, Raipur.

General Secretary—Shri Hari Sudarshanwar, Pleader, Raipur.

Joint Secretary—K. M. Munshi, science teacher, Laurie Municipal High School, Raipur.

Organizers—M. R. Munje (for the whole Chhattisgarh Division), and Eknath Ranade (for the Hindi Mahakoshal).

Preceptor (Guru)—M. L. Golwalkar, Nagpur.

Promoters—(a) S. K. Bose, contractor, Raipur, (b) Brijbhushanlal, Raipur, and (c) Trivenilal Shrivastava, Pleader, Dhamtari.

The exact membership in the whole district is not definitely known but in Raipur town it is believed to be 800 and the Sangh has branches in 12 wards of the town.

3. The office-bearers at Dhamtari are—

President—Hirjibhai.

Vice-President—Trivenilal Shrivastava, Pleader.

Secretary and Instructor—G. R. Padole.

The membership in Dhamtari town is believed to be about 300. The Dhamtari branch is reported to be active and 7 members have been arrested during the present Civil disobedience movement.

4. The office-bearers at Mahasamund are—

President—Shridhar Roy, Pleader.

Instructor—Narayanrao Khandekar.

The membership of the Sangh in this town is believed to be 20 only.

5. At Arang (an important village about 22 miles from Raipur) there is a branch of the Sangh and the office-bearers are—

President—Bhagirathi Agarwal.

Vice-President—Umashankar Agarwal.

Secretary—Rambhajanlal.

Treasurer—Bhagirathi.

The membership of this branch is believed to be about 60.

-7

6. At Sihawa (a notorious tract of the Dhamatri tahsil) there are reported to be 10 members while at Bhatapara, Baloda Bazar, Mullu (Arang) and Kurud there are 10 to 20 members at each place.

7. At the present moment the activities of the Sangh are not conspicuous but there is no doubt that if the communal situation deteriorates this institution will rapidly thrive as it is an anti-Muslim organization with almost the declared aim of having the whole of Hindustan for Hindus.

8. Physical training of younger members of the Sangh continues in Raipur and they are reported to own a band as well. An officers' training class consisting of about 265 members from Jubbulpore, Chhindwara and the Chhattisgarh Division was held at Raipur for a month from the 4th May 1942. Dr. Baldeo Prasad Mishra, President, and S. H. Sudarshanwar, General Secretary of the Sangh, had organized the class. Prakash Chandra Bhargava, Advocate, of Delhi, presided over the function of the last day and several speeches were delivered at an audience of about 500 (including 300 volunteers). The Hindus were exhorted to unite and to increase the membership of the Sangh.

9. Enquiries are being made in the interior to collect further details about the membership of the organization in important villages. When the information is available, a further report will be submitted.

Report of the Local Intelligence Branch, Raipur, dated the 24th October 1942, on the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in the Raipur district.

The Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh (National Volunteer Corps) was organized at Raipur in the year 1931, mainly through the efforts of Maharashtrian community. At present the office-bearers of the Sangh are as follows :—

District President—Dr. Baldeo Prasad Mishra, Ex-Diwan, Raigarh State.

Town President—Mr. P. Bhaduri, Advocate, Raipur.

General Secretary—Shri Hari Sudarshanwar, Pleader, Raipur.

Joint Secretary—K. M. Munshi, science teacher of the Laurie High School, Raipur.

Organizers—(1) Messrs. M. R. Munje for the whole Chhattisgarh and (2) Ekanath Ranade for the Hindi C. P. (Mahakoshal).

The Head (Guru) of the organization is Mr. M. L. Golwalkar of Nagpur.

Promoters—(1) S. K. Bose, contractor, Raipur, (2) Brijbhushanlal, Raipur, and (3) Trivenilal, Pleader, Dhamtari.

The office-bearers and promoters are men of considerable local influence in the Hindu society and have political leanings towards the Hindu Mahasabha, although they have remained aloof from the Congress civil disobedience movement, yet their sympathies are latent. The Sangh claims to be a body independent of the Hindu Mahasabha but it may be recalled that in 1932

the All-India Hindu Mahasabha gave official recognition to the Sangh, after which it became an all-India organization and practically a Hindu Sabha institution.

The membership in Raipur town alone is about 800 and its branches are located in 12 different wards (mohallas). Of these, are the most important, Budhapara, and Tatyapara, as these localities are populated mostly by Maharashtriyans and middle-class Hindus.

The ramifications in the interior of the district with details of each are given below, except Dhamtari, Mahasamund and Arang where governing bodies control the branches; the remaining ones are in charge of trainers only :—

I.—*Dhamtari*.—Established in 1939; president—Hirjibhai; vice-president—T. L. Shrivastava, Pleader; secretary and instructor—G. R. Padole; membership—300. It has got four sub-branches—(i) Mukhya Shakha (main branch), (ii) Up-Shakha, (iii) Prabhat Shakha (morning branch), and (iv) Ratri Shakha (night branch). Then again, each of these Shakhas has 4 classes—(i) Shishu (children), (ii) Baltoli (up to age of 15 years), (iii) Taruntoli (adults up to the age of 35 years), and (iv) Vriddhatoli (old persons). This branch is very much active and 7 members have been arrested during the present civil disobedience movement under rule 129 of the Defence of India Rules.

II.—*Mahasamund*.—Established in 1942; president—Shridhar Roy, Pleader; instructor—Narayanrao Khandekar; membership—about 20.

III.—*Arang*.—Established in 1942; president—Bhagirathi Agarwal; vice-president—Umashankar Agarwal; secretary—Rambhajan Lal; treasurer—Bhagirathi; membership—about 60.

IV.—*Nagri* (Sihawa).—Membership—about 10.

V.—*Bhatapara*.—Membership—20.

VI.—*Baloda Bazar*.—Membership—15.

VII.—*Khariar Road*.—Membership—not known.

VIII.—*Komakhani*.—Membership—not known.

IX.—*Mullu* (Arang).—Membership—10.

X.—*Kurud*.—Membership—10.

Aims and objects.—Ostensible object is to impart physical training to the Hindu youths and to make them strong and healthy. Real object seems to be different. The underlying motive is to organize the Hindu youths to defend the community against the Muslims' attacks and to win independence for Hindus and restore India to her ancient glories. It is an anti-Muslim organization, aiming at the exclusive supremacy of the Hindus.

Physical training.—The volunteers of the Sangh are daily exercised in *lezim*, lathi, dagger, sword and military drill. The Sangh owns a band consisting of drums, trumpets, flutes, bugles and bagpipes. The volunteers are trained to play on them. The complete course extends over three years. Since the orders of

the Government they are complying with the restriction and their policy, at present, as reported, is not to go against the Government regulations.

Mental training.—Mental training classes are also held from time to time suiting the convenience of the different type of volunteers like students, labourers, etc., and the volunteers are taught, besides discipline, to maintain their religion and the prestige of Hindu India and to worship their heroes like Shivaji and Maharana Pratap Singh, who by their bravery and efforts had established Hindu Kingdom by defeating the Muslims. Their present programme is to increase the membership and open branches of the Sangh in the rural areas—for which workers have been trained—and to organize the Hindus so that they may be able to defend themselves at the time of internal chaos.

Pledge and prayer.—Every member of the Sangh is required to enter into a written pledge and to take an oath before Almighty God that he has become a member of the Sangh and would endeavour to gain freedom for Hindu nation and maintain, without violating his sacred Hindu religion, Hindu society and Hindu culture and perform his duties honestly with heart and soul. The prayer is national and on Hindu style for the prosperity of the Hindu community and nation.

Bhagwa Jhanda.—They hoist an ochre-coloured flag (Bhagwa Jhanda) at the time of their prayer, parades and other ceremonial occasions. It may be recalled that this flag, at one time, was used by the great warrior Shivaji.

Uniform.—It consists of khaki shirts, shorts, hoses, pattis and military boots with leather belts with brass buckles. The badges "R. S. S. S." are also fixed on the shoulder flaps. The head-gear consists of a black folding cap (like forage cap). Volunteers carry a stout lathi. The officers wear cross belts but this practice has since been given up as also the marching in military formation. In short, the dress resembles that of an Indian sepoy.

Funds.—These are collected generally on Guru Purnima day celebrations falling some time in the month of every August. The Hindu idea is that every student or disciple should remunerate his Guru (teacher) for the learning imparted to him. The last Guru Purnima falling on 27th September 1942 fetched nearly about Rs. 1,500. Sum is not fixed and every one contributes according to his status. Besides this, donations are also accepted from well-to-do persons.

Officers' training.—An officers' training class consisting of 265 members drawn from Chhattisgarh, Chhindwara and Jubbulpore was held at Raipur from 4th May to 4th June 1942 under the supervision of Dr. Baldeo Prasad Mishra and S. H. Sudarshanwar, the general secretary of the Sangh. At the closing function held under the presidency of Prakash Chandra Bhargava, Advocate of Delhi, speeches were delivered by several speakers in the presence of 300 volunteers and 200 Hindus, laying stress on organization of the Sangh, increasing the membership and unity of the Hindu society.

Celebrations.—The Sangh celebrates annually the following festivals :—

- (1) Hindu New Year's Day—In April.
- (2) Guru Purnima Day—In August.
- (3) Rāksha Bandhan—In July.
- (4) Dasehra—In October.
- (5) Ramdas Nawami—On the birthday of Shivaji.

General remarks.—The membership is gradually increasing and efforts are being made by the promoters to raise up the number of volunteers. The volunteers are well disciplined and smartly turned out on ceremonial occasions. Although the policy at present is not to come into conflict with the Government, yet, the Sangh, beyond doubt, remains potentially dangerous. About 7 members of the Sangh individually participated in the present civil disobedience movement and have been jailed under rule 129 of the Defence of India Rules.

This branch is under the general supervision of Mr. V. D. Kolte, vice-president of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh of the Bhandara district. It is under the direct supervision of Mr. R. D. Gaikwad, Pleader, of Sakoli, who very often runs down to the place for giving instructions. Students of the local school numbering 36 attend the Sangh exercises on the ground near the rest-house. It is learnt that this branch has got 10 swords, lathis, daggers and bugles but none of these are used for training at present. Subscriptions are collected for purchasing things required. The branch here has not been very active as Lakhani which is a big village has four distinct parties, namely, that of Depressed Classes, that of Telis, that of ashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh and that of Musalmins. All these parties are at loggerhead. The president is an active member of the Hindu Mahasabha. He established a Samarth High School (unrecognized) at Lakhani. This branch is not likely to side the Congress but by itself it may prove dangerous.

IV. *Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, Gadegaon (Sakoli tahsil).*

Membership—20.

Office-bearers—

President—Mr. Shankar Singh Dhanraj Singh, Rajput.

Names of important members—

- (1) Mr. Sardar Singh, Rajput.
- (2) Mr. Chandulal Dhanraj Singh,
- (3) Mr. Khushal Patiram Patel, Kira
- (4) Mr. Bakaram Kuthe.

This branch was started by Parashram Govind Lakhnikar, president of Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, Lakhani. It was formed only last year. Every evening trained members of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh at Lakhani visit this village to give the boys physical training. They meet in the house of one Khushal Patiram Patel. This branch is subordinate to the Lakhani branch and acts according to the instructions of the president of that branch. By itself it has been so far harmless.

V *Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, Sakoli.*

Membership—25.

Office-bearers—

President—Mr. R. D. Gaikwad, Pleader.

Secretary—Mr. Shankar Singh *alias* Kawadu Singh, son of Bhagwan Singh.

Names of important members—

- (1) Mr. Balaji Ghadhey Muktiar.
- (2) Mr. Ramchandra Joshi, teacher.
- (3) Mr. Paiku Somaji Gadre, teacher.
- (4) Mr. Adku Somaji Gadre, teacher.
- (5) Mr. Munishwar, teacher.
- (6) Mr. Dhonge, headmaster.
- (7) Mr. G. A. Bhandari, Pleader.
- (8) Mr. Ranade, Pleader.
- (9) Mr. Mondhey, Attorney.

- (10) Mr. Nirwan, teacher.
- (11) Mr. M. M. Luley, pound-inspector.
- (12) Mr. Dirjisao, son of Dillisao, Kalar.
- (13) Mr. Vithal Sheoji, petition-writer.
- (14) Mr. Dullu Singh, son of Sukal Singh.
- (15) Mr. Nathu, petition-writer.
- (16) Mr. Kunji Singh.

This branch trains school boys in lathi exercise on the school ground. Small subscriptions are collected from the boys under training. It is learnt that the Sangh has got spears, daggers and lathis but these are not brought out.

VI. *Rashtriya*

Sewak Sangh, Gondia.

Membership—350.

Office-bearers—

President and treasurer—Mr. Kesharao Khanderao Kulkarni, Pleader.

Vice-President—Mr. Mardikar, petition-writer.

Secretary—Mr. Dhaīndharao Tankhewala, Pleader.

Commander—Mr. Narayan Hari Telang, Pleader.

Names of important members—

- (1) Mr. Oudha Bihari of Deshbandhu ward, Gondia, owner of elephant brand oil tank.
- (2) Mr. W. A. Li aye, Pleader, U. T. C.
- (3) Mr. P. R. Joshi, Pleader.
- (4) Mr. Deshpande, Pleader.
- (5) Mr. D. M. Kolte, Pleader.
- (6) Mr. S. G. Bapat, Pleader, U. C.
- (7) Mr. K. K. Verma, headmaster.
- (8) Mr. W. G. Sarolkar.
- (9) Mr. S. K. Baikar, teacher, Samarth High School.
- (10) Mr. Pathak, Panvel agent.
- (11) Mr. Phophle, lathi instructor.
- (12) Mr. Deshpande, reporter and municipal member.
- (13) Mr. Punjiyabhai, partner of Chhotabhai Jethabhai Bidi Factory.
- (14) Mr. Manoharabhai, artner of Chhotabhai Jethabhai Bidi Factory.
- (15) Mr. Ganpati Pachunde, dismissed railway clerk.
- (16) Mr. Bansi, son of Surajmal, kerosene oil tank owner.

Mr. Narayan Hari Telang, a pleader, who is commander with the branch, looks after its management. Two years back, Mr. Telang was living at Bhandara. He was an active member of the Bhandara branch. During the August disturbances he used to visit Nagpur and Bhandara for instructions. Subscriptions are collected for this branch. It is understood that the branch has got lathis, daggers, spears, swords and bugles but these are not brought out. It is also understood that at times they exercise with these weapons secretly in the compound of Mr. S. R. Bapat. This body is not very active and all of them cannot make up their mind to join political activities.

BILASPUR DISTRICT

D. O. No. 327, dated Bilaspur, the 10th November 1942,
from the Deputy Commissioner, Bilaspur

Please refer to your strictly secret D. O. No. 1465-890-Con., dated the 19th October 1942, regarding Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh.

2. I furnish particulars regarding membership, etc., of the Sangh in the statement below. The Sangh is run by the following office-bearers, who are men of considerable local influence. Politically all of them are Hindu Mahasabhaites and have no sympathies for National Congress. During the present subversive movement of the Congress they kept themselves aloof. In fact, Mr. T. Y. Dehankar, the president of the Sangh, who is also the president of the municipal committee, Bilaspur, was of much help to me during the recent disturbances and he did all that was in his power to put down the student-trouble. At my request he influenced his party to pass a resolution to the effect that the committee had no objection to the removal of the Congress flag from the Town Hall and the flag was accordingly removed :—

- (1) President—Mr. T. Y. Dehankar, Advocate, Bilaspur.
- (2) Secretary—Dr. P. H. Sant, Bilaspur. Is local medical practitioner and secretary of the Indian Red Cross Society.
- (3) Joint Secretary and Treasurer—Mr. R. A. Nulkar, Pleader, Bilaspur.

3. The Sangh is in existence in this district from 1929. It was started here by the local Maharashtra community with a view to improving the health of the youths of the Hindu community. The sewaks of the Sangh are now taught physical exercises, lathi drill and discipline.

4. The sewaks are also instructed to maintain their religion, prestige of the Hindu India and to worship great men of the land, like Shivaji, Maharana Pratap Singh and others. Every volunteer of the Sangh is required to enter into a written pledge and he takes a religious oath that he, as a member of the Sangh, would endeavour to do his duties to the best of his ability, to win freedom for the Hindu nation and maintain it without violating the sacred principles of the Hindu religion and Hindu culture. At the time of the religious ceremonies and prayers the Sangh hoists an ochre-coloured flag (Bhagwa Jhanda). The Sangh observes the following religious festivals, at which they hold parades and have short speeches on the occasion :—

- (1) Hindu New Year Day—In April.
- (2) Guru Purnima—In August.
- (3) Rakshabhandhan—In July.
- (4) Dasehra—In October.
- (5) Ramdas Nawami—On the Birthday of Shivaji.

Funds are collected from time to time from well-to-do persons for the use of the Sangh.

5. The members of the Sangh use uniforms consisting of khaki shorts, shirts, hoses, pattis, belts with brass buckles and boots. The Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh badge is fixed on shoulder flaps. The head-gear consists of a black folding cap. In D. O. No. 1111-853-Con., dated the 4th July 1942, Government asked me not to take objection to the wearing of such uniform by the members of the Sangh.

Statement showing particulars regarding Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh and its branches in Bilaspur district, 1942.

Name with location and number of members.

R. S. S. S. (S. H. Bilaspur)—

Chatapara branch—About 125.

Sarkanda branch—50.

Gondpara branch—75.

Kududand branch—20.

Juna Bilaspur branch—150.

Normal School branch—30.

Railway Settlement branch—50.

Jagmal Kholi branch—25.

Vyayamshala, a branch of the R. S. S. S. (S. H. Hirri), Belha—7.

R. S. S. S. (S. H. Kota), Ganiyari—20.

Maharashtra Mandal, a branch of the R. S. S. S. (S. H. Ratanpur) Ratanpur—18.

R. S. S. S. (S. H. Mungeli)—

Mungeli branch—100.

Karhi branch—20.

R. S. S. S. (S. H. Pandaria), Pandaria—30.

R. S. S. S. (S. H. Janjgir)—

Akaltara branch—150.

V Baloda branch—50.

R. S. S. S. (S. H. Champa), Champa branch—25.

Its ostensible object is to impart physical training to the Hindu youths and to make them strong and healthy. Real object seems to be different. The underlying motive is to organize the Hindu youths to defend the community against the Muslims' attacks and to win independence for Hindus and restore India to her ancient glories. It is an anti-Muslim organization, aiming at the exclusive supremacy of the Hindus. The funds amount to about Rs. 600 for the district. Its activities are at present non-violent. The organization represents Hindus.

NOTE.—The District Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh is intending to open its branches at Sheorinarayan (where they have started their work), Tarod (S. H. Pamgarh), Purah (S. H. Mungeli), Takhatpur, Deori, and Birkona (S. H. Bilaspur), Hardi, Mopka and V Sakri (S. H. Bilaspur). At some places they have started their work, but have not yet formed a regular branch.

BALAGHAT DISTRICT

D. O., dated Balaghat, the 14th November 1942, from the Deputy Commissioner, Balaghat

In reply to your D. O. No. 1465-890-Con., dated the 19th October 1942, I enclose a copy of a statement received from the District Superintendent of Police. I agree with the District Superintendent of Police that the organization needs watching. Recently they had a big meeting at Katangi attended by people from Balaghat and Seoni. The object of this meeting is not known. It came to notice during the disturbances that a certain mine foreman at important Bharweli manganese mine (4 miles from Balaghat) was a ghat-naik of the Balaghat branch of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh.

Full particulars of the organization of the Rastriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in Balaghat district

	Names of office-bearers.	Its leading organizers
	(3)	(4)
	P. R. Deopujari, Pleader; Balaghat, (Jila Sangh Sangh-chalak).	(1) M. R. Waikar, Pleader, Balaghat, (2) S. V. Indurkar, Pleader, Balaghat, (3) P. S. Harkare, Balaghat, and (4) W. N. Kelkar, Pleader, Balaghat.
2. Lalbarra	B. R. Wai	(1) B. R. Waikar and (2) N. R. Pencharkar.
Waraseoni	P. R. Deopujari, Pleader, Balaghat.	Krishnaji, son of Ithobaji,
	(1) Ramkrishna Bholaram Gupta and (2) Lunkaran Nemichand Oswal (Cashier).	(1) Ramkrishna Bholaram Gupta and (2) Lunkaran Nemichand Oswal.

Nature of activities.—Indian outdoor games, lathi drill and physical exercises.

NOTE.—Although it has branches at Balaghat, Lalbarra, Waraseoni and Katangi the funds (Rs. 150) are only at the last-named station house which is its only stronghold. Outwardly there has been nothing lately to arouse suspicion about the bonafides of the organization though a watch over the movements of its leading organizers appears highly desirable. The organization may take a dangerous turn.

DRUG DISTRICT

**D. O. No. 572, dated Drug, the 21st November 1942,
from the Deputy Commissioner, Drug**

I submit herewith a copy of the District Superintendent of Police's report which gives the required information about the organization of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in this district, its membership and the local leading organizers.

2. It will be seen from the District Superintendent of Police's report that it is only at Bemetara that a small branch of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh has been established last year by a teacher from Nagpur with a membership of 15 school boys and the local organizers are Mr. Thoke, Pleader, and his son who are its president and secretary, respectively. At Drug there is no regular branch of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh as such and attempts to establish one have not so far been successful owing to lack of local interest. About a dozen boys are being given training in physical drill.

*Report, dated the 17th November 1942, of the District
Superintendent of Police, Drug.*

At Drug proper no branch of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh was ever organized although some members of this organization from outside visited Drug in the past and tried to collect subscriptions and enlist members but failed as local persons did not take any interest in the work. About four months ago it was proposed to call Mr. Munje for establishing a branch at Drug but for want of local support nothing could be done. Recently one Kesho Narhari Gore, a boy aged about 25, who is a member of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh of the Bilaspur Branch, came to Drug and has succeeded in collecting about 12 to 15 boys who are being given training in physical drill. These boys have neither uniforms nor badges of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh. No subscription has been collected and there have been no recent activities of any kind. One Eknath Ranade of Nagpur who is said to be the chief organizer of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh for Mahakoshal Division visits this place occasionally.

2. At Bemetara (tahsil) a small branch of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh was established last year by J. T. Joshi, headmaster of a private school of Nagpur, who visited Bemetara and stayed with his father-in-law, Mr. L. Y. Katolkar (Tahsildar), Bemetara. Since then about 15 small school boys who are supposed to be the members of this Sangh are receiving physical training given by one Pandulal, school master, and a school boy by name Mulidass Bairagi who got the training at Raipur. K. S. Thoke, Pleader, is the president of this organization and his son, S. K. Thoke, is the secretary. There have been no recent activities.

3. There is no branch of Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh at Balod.

4. Reports from other station houses also show that no such organizations exist anywhere.

5. As information in this connection had to be called from station houses, this report could not be sent earlier.

37

BHANDARA DISTRICT

Con. No. 12, dated Camp Gondia, the 13th January 1943,
from the Deputy Commissioner, Bhandara

Kindly refer to Political and Military Department D. O. No. 1465-890-Con. of the 19th October 1942 regarding particulars of the organization of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in this district. The information will be found in the statements below. Mr. Vinayak Damodhar Kolte, Advocate, Bhandara, is the chief man in the district.

I. *Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, Bhandara.*

Membership—200.

Office-bearers—

President—Mr. Vinayak Damodhar Kolte, Advocate.

Vice-President—Mr. Nanaji Joshi.

Secretary—Mr. Ganpatrao Deo, Pleader.

Names of important Sangh members—

(1) Mr. Gajanan Deo, Pleader, Bhandara.

(2) Mr. Anantrao Sathe, teacher, Shri Ganesh High School, Bhandara.

(3) Mr. Bedekar, teacher, Shri Ganesh High School, Bhandara.

(4) Mr. Chande, teacher, Shri Ganesh High School, Bhandara.

(5) Mr. S. G. Pathak, Pleader, Bhandara.

(6) Mr. D. V. Chepey, Pleader, Bhandara.

(7) Mr. Trimbak Hirdey, Bhandara.

(8) Mr. Purshottam Apte, Bhandara.

(9) Mr. Gangadhar Vinayak Tilak, Bhandara.

(10) Dr. Gopal Ramchandra Wyawahare.

(11) Mr. Annaji Subhedar, Pleader, Bhandara.

(12) Mr. Dattatraya Gopal Ranade, Pleader.

(13) Mr. Atmaram Maroti Markandewar.

Numbers (2), (3) and (4) who are teachers of the Shri Ganesh High School are training instructors. Non-brahmins do not take part in any Sangh affair. A small number of boys attend ordinary drill and Indian games, occasionally in the morning or evening without uniform or lathi. Rallies were held in 1940 and 1941 but not in 1942.

II. *Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, Adyar.*

Membership—25.

Office-bearers—

President and Treasurer—Mr. Vishwanath Laxman Patel.

Organizer and Commander—Mr. Vasant Bhagirath Shrun-
gar, Pawar.

Names of important Sangh members—

(1) Mr. Motiram Bajirao Deshmukh.

(2) Mr. Maroti Kalar.

(3) Mr. Nilkanth, tailor.

- (4) Mr. Gangadhar Patel.
- (5) Mr. Vithoba Dalal.
- (6) Mr. Balaji, Kunbi, Munim.
- (7) Mr. Sitaram, B.A..
- (8) Mr. Jaikrishna Nawre, Headmaster.
- (9) Mr. Sitaram Sangitwar.
- (10) Mr. Narayan Pitu Dalal.
- (11) Mr. Deshmukh.
- (12) Mr. Tiwari.
- (13) Mr. Motiram Sende.
- (14) Mr. Dhargawe.
- (15) Mr. Jagannath Raut.
- (16) Mr. Nimaji.
- (17) Mr. Govinda Bhuiyar.
- (18) Mr. Jagannath Bhuiyar.
- (19) Mr. Bhagwat.
- (20) Mr. Rajaram Gajawe.
- (21) Mr. Anandrao Potwar.

Numbers (8) to (21) are teachers of the local school.

The Sangh has uniform, lathis and bugle, but these are not used at present. They play country games. This branch was intending to participate in the August disturbances and for doing so they had raised a sum of Rs. 200 by private collections. Their president, Vishwanath Patel, having died, they abandoned the idea; they have deposited Rs. 200 in the temple funds. These members are likely to participate in anti-Government movements in future. The president and the organizer are active members and have Congress leanings.

III. *Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, Lakhani.*

Membership—20.

Office-bearers—

President—Mr. Parashram Govind Lakhanikar, B.A.

Vice-President—Mr. Vaidya, teacher, Samarth School.

(Both of them are also instructors.)

Names of important members—

- (1) Mr. Pandhari Nanaji Kalal, teacher, primary school.
- (2) Mr. Ramchandra Balaji Dhenge, Kalal.
- (3) Mr. Narad Gopal, Kalal.
- (4) Mr. Takaram Mahadeo, Barai.
- (5) Mr. Govinda Dhumre, Sunar, teacher.
- (6) Mr. Lalchand Munnalal, Bania.
- (7) Mr. Narayan Balaji Dhenge, Kalal.
- (8) Mr. Sudalwar, Brahmin, Hindi Middle Primary school.
- (9) Mr. Sakharan Arjun Nerwage, P. M. Pohra school.
- (10) Mr. Nago Govinda, teacher, Amgaon school.
- (11) Mr. Ratiram Nabha, Kunbi, tailor.
- (12) Mr. Wasudeo Ganu Bhanarkar, Barai.
- (13) Mr. Shreeram Kishan Jhalke, Kunbi.
- (14) Mr. Khushal Patiram Patel, Kirad.
- (15) Mr. Laxman Doma, Kalar, student.
- (16) Mr. Yado Govinda, Teli, student.

VII. *Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, Tirora.*

Membership—250.

Office-bearers—

President—Mr. Ambadaspant Aloni, Malguzar.

Vice-President—Mr. Ramratan Pandit (in jail).

Secretary—Mr. Ganpatrao Kadwa, Kunbi, headmaster, middle school.

Instructors—Mr. Mene, assistant teacher, and Mr. Peshkar, assistant teacher.

Names of important members—

- (1) Mr. Damodarpant Aloni.
- (2) Mr. Balmukund Dixit.
- (3) Mr. Ambalal Pujari (in jail).
- (4) Mr. Jangade, teacher.
- (5) Mr. Lautare, teacher.
- (6) Mr. Wairangade, teacher.

Tirora is a bad Congress centre and though this branch did not participate in the August disturbances, it is potentially dangerous. Tirora is a big place and has a large student population and this branch has influence with the students. Subscriptions are collected.

VIII. *Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, Tumsar.*

Membership—50.

Office-bearers—

President—Mr. Shaligram Chauresia, Medical Store.

Vice-President—Mr. Maroti Bansod, Mahar, of Deohari,

Secretary—Mr. Kaloolal Halwai, of Tumsar.

Names of important members—

- (1) Mr. Tulsiram, Teli.
- (2) Mr. Balkishan, Gauli.
- (3) Mr. Haribhau Badwaik.
- (4) Mr. Kashigir, Gosain.
- (5) Mr. Sitaram, Teli.
- (6) Mr. Dasaram, Teli.
- (7) Mr. Bala, Teli.
- (8) Mr. Narsingdas Fatechand, Marwari.
- (9) Mr. Govinda Lakhu, Teli.
- (10) Mr. Tukaram, Teli.

Numbers (3) to (7) and (9) and (10) are in jail.

Seth Fatechand of Tumsar had established this branch and gives it considerable financial assistance. One Biharilal Patel, a person who has been arrested during the last disturbances and who took part in damaging causeways at Mohadi, has influence with these members. The branch trains local youngmen in the use of lathis, swords, daggers and spears. Some of the members participated in the August movement but they gave up immediately after the mob was fired at on the 14th August 1942.

AMRAOTI DISTRICT

No. 42-C, dated Amraoti Camp, the 12th January 1943, from the Deputy Commissioner, Amraoti

I forward herewith a copy of a report on the activities and organization of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in the Amraoti district just received from the District Superintendent of Police. The district police have had their hands full in connection with prosecutions arising out of the disturbances, crop thefts, and price control administration; hence the delay in submission of this report.

Report, dated the 12th January 1943, from the District Superintendent of Police, Amraoti, on the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in the Amraoti district.

The Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh is very well organized and there are at present in this district about 55 branches in Amraoti, Loni, Paratwada, Morsi, Ellichpur, Chandur Railway, Dattapur, Warud, Kurha, Daryapur, Talegaon, Mahuli, Pathrot, Nandgaon, Teosa, Badnera, Mangrul, Rahimapur, Anjangaon, Virasgaon, Assegaon and Khallar ranges. At present the membership is believed to be about 3,750 and is increasing. The financial position of the organization is fairly sound though some of the smaller branches are said to have little or no funds.

The members of the Sangh practise Indian games and lathi play and the standard of drill of some of the bigger branches is definitely good. Recently there has been increased activity the reason for which is not definitely known. One explanation is that at the time of his death the late Dr. Hedgewar had laid down that 3 per cent of Hindus living in towns and 1 per cent of Hindus living in villages should be enlisted as members of the Sangh and that therefore efforts are being made to bring enlistments up to these proportions. At present there is no reason to surmise that the members of the Sangh are being trained for any purpose other than to protect Hindus and their interests in the event of serious communal strife. During the Congress rebellion a few members of the Sangh took part in acts of sabotages, etc., but as a whole the organization kept aloof.

Recent activities of the Sangh have included camps held at Daryapur, Ellichpur, Amraoti and Dhamangaon at which volunteers were given instructions in drill and in leadership. It is reported that at all of these camps Government restrictions were duly observed.

The district organizer is Rao Bahadur R. M. Khare who is known as a loyal friend of Government. The names of other influential organizers in the district are as follows :—

- (1) Shankar Daulat Gupte, Pleader of Amraoti.
- (2) Laxman Ramkrishna More of Amraoti.
- (3) Damodhar Shivram Shekdar of Amraoti.
- (4) Ganesh Rangnath Bhoot, Pleader of Amraoti.
- (5) Ganesh Sheshrao Jadhao, Pleader of Amraoti.
- (6) Devidas Prahlad Pathak of Amraoti.
- (7) Ramrao Raghunath Sardeshpande of Amraoti.
- (8) Janardhan Eknath Adasad of Dhamangaon.

- (9) Prabhakar Shankar Joshi of Dhamangaon.
- (10) Gajanan Anant Jog of Dattapur.
- (11) Purshottam Labhachand Rathi of Dattapur.
- (12) Laxman Janardhan Khare, Pleader of Daryapur.
- (13) Dr. Pandurang Tukaram Havre of Babhali, S.
Daryapur.
- (14) Haribhai Chowkhade, Pleader of Daryapur.
- (15) Dattatraya Laxman Chitale, Pleader of Daryapur.
- (16) Kesheo Ganesh Abhyankar, Pleader of Paratwada.
- (17) Govind Narhar Kanetkar, Pleader of Paratwada.
- (18) Anant Ambadas Deshpande, teacher of Paratwada.
- (19) Jaikrishna Rajaram Joshi of Ellichpur.
- (20) Laxman Narayan Jugade of Ellichpur.
- (21) Eknath Namdeo Thakre of Ellichpur.

AKOLA DISTRICT

D. O. No. 2225, dated Akola, the 3rd December 1942,
from the Deputy Commissioner, Akola

Please refer to your D. O. No. 1465-890-Con. of the 19th
October 1942. I enclose two lists, prepared in consultation with
the District Superintendent of Police giving the required informa-
tion.

Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, Akola.

Serial No. and Branches (1)	Strength (2)	Increasing or not (3)	Financial position (4)
1. Akola	.. 800	Increasing	.. Sound.
2. Murtizapur	.. 450	Do.	.. Ordinary.
3. Karanja	.. 75	Stationary	.. Fair.
4. Bargaon	.. }		
5. Khadka	.. }		
6. Goregaon	.. } 160	Increasing	.. Unsound.
7. Palso	.. }		
8. Akot	.. 200	Not increasing	.. Do.
9. Telhara	.. 200	Increasing	.. Sound.
10. Bhameri	.. }		
11. Waiuda	.. }		
12. Dahigaon	.. }		
13. Pathardi	.. }		
14. Tuthgaon	.. }		
15. Hiwarkhed	.. } 125	Do.	.. Unsound.
16. Danapur	.. }		
17. Hingni	.. }		
18. Adgaon	.. }		
19. Balapur	.. 96	Do.	.. Do.
20. Barsitakli	.. 30	Stationary	.. Do.
21. Ural	.. 30	Do.	.. Do.
22. Andura	.. 15	Increasing	.. Do.
23. Channi	.. 20	Do.	.. Do.
24. Basim	.. 250	Stationary	.. Ordinary.
25. Sipur	.. }		
26. Malegaon	.. 135	Increasing	.. Unsound.
27. Netansa	.. 35	Stationary	.. Do.
28. Nandora	.. 10	Do.	.. Do.
29. Mungla	.. 35	Do.	.. Do.
30. Pangrikute	.. 10	Do.	.. Do.
31. Risod	.. 100	Increasing	.. Fair.
32. Wakad	.. 30	Do.	.. Do.
33. Loni Bk.	.. 20	Do.	.. Do.
34. Kaotha	.. 55	Do.	.. Do.
35. Mop	.. 20	Do.	.. Do.
36. Balkheda	.. 25	Do.	.. Do.
37. Bhur	.. 25	Do.	.. Do.
38. Motegaon	.. 15	Do.	.. Do.
39. Savad	.. 15	Do.	.. Do.
40. Nizampur	.. 15	Do.	.. Do.
41. Kurha	.. 10	Do.	.. Do.
42. Medsi	.. 35	Stationary	.. Ordinary.
43. Rajanda	.. 24	Do.	.. Do.
44. Jhala	.. 8	Do.	.. Do.
45. Rajakinhi	.. 50	Do.	.. Do.
46. Ansingh	.. 57	Do.	.. Do.
47. Mangrulpir	.. 40	Do.	.. Unsound.
48. Manora	.. }		
49. Damni	.. }		
50. Heora	.. }		
51. Giroli	.. }		
52. Kondali	.. } 90	Increasing	.. Do.
53. Karli	.. }		
54. Waroli	.. }		
55. Talap	.. }		
56. Pinja	.. 20	Stationary	.. Do.

43

Principal activities are as usual, *i.e.*, lathi drill, squad drill and native games. At Akola, some of the members are trained to play at band and bugle. Principal organizers also go on cycles in villages to do propaganda and increase membership. There is a general tendency to increase the membership and open new branches in as many villages as possible and some of the branches mentioned above have recently been opened. Government restrictions on uniforms and military drill are being observed except at Hiwarkhed.

At Channi, a new branch has been started. Office-bearers are :—

President—Sukhdeo Chandrabhan of Umra.

Vice-President—Ramchandra Supazi of Umra.

Secretary—Sakharam Khandu of Umra.

Instructor—Narayan Phulchand Gaud of Deolgaon.

NOTE.—The organization mainly aims at Hindu unity. It is staunch communal. The organization has influence mostly over the young people. It is neither actually nor potentially dangerous. Station-house Officers, Balapur and Hiwarkhed, report that it is potentially dangerous in their circle.

List of principal organizers of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in the Akola district.

1. *Akola*.—(1) Shriram Anant Sohoni, Advocate, provincial Berar organizer, (2) Dinkar Wasudeo Pingle, Advocate, district organizer, (3) Gajanan Mahadeo Ghate, Pleader, taluq organizer, (4) Krishnarao Kesheorao Palsule, Pleader, Akola town organizer, and (5) Govind Kesheo Sohoni, Waidya, dehat organizer.

2. *Basim*.—(1) Shankar Gopal Dabir, Pleader, (2) Narayan Ramchandra Dhangre, Pleader, (3) K. B. Deshpande, Pleader, (4) Laxman Devidas Ansinghker, (5) Dattatraya Balkrishna Kolhatkar, (6) Premalal Bhagwandas Mochi, (7) Narayan Ganpat Kale, and (8) Dattatraya Balkrishna Athle, Pleader.

3. *Sirpur*.—(1) Dr. R. J. Kulkarni, Malegaon, (2) Bhujangrao Achutrao, Malegaon, (3) Gopal Sakharam Joshi, (4) Chandrabhan Hari Teli, (5) Ramprasad Laxminarayan Ti Marwadi, and (6) Sawarker, Pleader.

4. *Risod*.—(1) Jethamal Sheoram Marwadi, (2) Vithalrao Khanderao Deshpande, and (3) Narayan Kaluram Kothari, Marwadi.

5. *Ansing*.—Dadarao Bhujangrao Deshpande.

6. *Jawalka*.—(1) Narayan Bhagwantrao Vanjari, Medsi, (2) Raghunath Tukaram Pathak, Medsi, (3) Mahadeo Jaideo Marwadi, Medsi, (4) Hazarimal Ghasiram Marwadi, Medsi, and (5) Rajaram Sonaji, Maratha, Giha.

7. *Akot*.—(1) Purshottam Shankar Bedarkar, Akot, (2) Mahadeo Vasudeo Asalkar, Akot, (3) Digambar Kashinath Deshmukh, and (4) Vasant Vinayak Jakate.

8. *Hiwarkhed*.—(1) Wasudeo Namdeo, Maratha, Danapur, (2) Narayan Dhonduram, Brahmin, Danapur, (3) Jagdeo Madhoji, Maratha, Danapur, (4) Govind Gopdu, Maratha, Hingni Buzruk, (5) Jagannath Sampat, Maratha, Hingni Buzruk, (6) Bhagwan Sampat, Maratha, Hingni Buzruk, (7) Motiram Pundlik, Maratha, Hingni Buzruk, (8) Narayan Pundlik, Maratha, Hiwarkhed, (9) Ramchandra Govind Mankar, Adgaon Buzruk, (10) Vishwanath Gannappa Wani, Adgaon Buzruk, and (11) Shridhar Laxman Joshi, Adgaon Buzruk.

9. *Telhara*.—(1) Manilal Harakchand Gujrathi, Telhara, and (2) Kesheo Narayan Tagde, Telhara.

10. *Murtizapur*.—(1) Govind Raghunath Karandikar, Pleader, taluq organizer, (2) Ramkrishna Martan Parchand, Vaidya, taluq organizer, and (3) Amrit Dulichand Sangwi, drill instructor.

11. *Karanja*.—(1) Vishnu Yadhorao Khedkar, Karanja, drill instructor, (2) Sadaram Pandurang Sadhu, Pleader, Karanja, (3) Shridhar Balkrishna Godbole, Karanja, drill instructor, and (4) Dr. Hemchandra Ratansa Vaidya, Karanja.

12. *Balapur*.—(1) Wasantrao Dajiba Kaite, Vyala, (2) Wasudeo Narayan Soman, Pleader, and (3) Balkrishna Narayan Palker, Pleader.

13. *Mangrulpir*.—(1) Dattatraya Dhondopant Kulkarni, (2) Gopal Vithal Palsolker, Pleader, (3) Nawabrao Subhanrao Deshmukh, drill master, Manora, and (4) Ramrao Shivrao Deshmukh, Talab.

BULDANA DISTRICT

**D. O. No. 174-S., dated Buldana, the 28th November 1942,
from the Deputy Commissioner, Buldana**

I have had detailed enquiries made in regard to the organization and membership of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in this district. There can be no doubt that the Sangh remains one of the most important, disciplined and organized bodies of Buldana district. I do not think I will be wrong in stating that the strength of the Sangh movement here is greater and the roots of the organization go deeper than in any other district of Berar except Akola. The membership of this organization has been on the increase according to the 3-year plan of the Sangh and the drilling and discipline as well as a well-defined policy remain a marked feature not found in other political or social bodies of Berar.

2. The organization has its headquarters at Mehkar with Mr. R. V. Deshmukh, a landlord, as the president. Mr. Kavimandan is the district treasurer and president of the branches in the Chikhli taluq. He is also the president of the Buldana town branch. There are in all 173 branches in the district and the total membership would come to something like 3,222. I have been able to collect detailed information in regard to membership and other details of the Khamgaon sub-divisional organization. The names of the president, secretary, joint secretary, drill master and other office-bearers are given in the list below (Annexure A). This is as complete as could be possibly managed in the circumstances. The list gives the framework of the organization and the names of members as far as ascertained.

The organization of Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in the ghat taluqs (Chikhli, Mehkar and Buldana) is led by Kavimandan and Khakale. The names of office-bearers of the Chikhli and Mehkar branches is also enclosed though here the information is neither so detailed nor complete (Annexure B).

3. I am also supplying for the information of Government details regarding (a) the present strength, (b) financial position, (c) increase in membership, (d) due observance of the restrictions placed on the Sangh, and (e) the influence of the branches of the Sangh in their respective localities as well as remarks as to whether they are potentially dangerous or not. This information is collected for each station house and is tabulated in the annexure below (Annexure C).

4. In regard to the objects of the organization, the information so far received by me leads me to the conclusion that the Sangh does not want to come into conflict with Government but desires to build up and conserve its power for a two-fold purpose—

- (1) to seize power, if need be by violence, in the event of anarchy in the country,
- (2) to defeat the Muslim power in the event of a civil war or at least to give a threat to the Muslim organization to avert the possibility of a civil war.

The Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh has, however, no plan to either fight Government or even to oppose it. It has been

reported that the Sangh is the "mailed fist" of the Hindu Mahasabha and it is said that they would take the role of shock troops of the Hindu Mahasabha. This may be partly true but I am not in a position to vouch for the accuracy of the above remarks. My conversation with Kavimandan, the principal organizer, leads me to believe that the Sangh is by no means the "defending dog" of the Hindu Mahasabha. It is stated and asserted that the Sangh is pre-eminently a non-political body and does not associate itself with any of the political organizations or parties that exist in India today. This is their theory and ostensibly they may be said to have maintained it.

5. Your D. O. probably requires information to be collected regarding membership of the Sangh. You will appreciate that as there are over 3,000 members it will be necessary to open special registers to get their names and particulars and I would like to know if Government would find it necessary to be supplied with all these details. The District Superintendent of Police has been instructed to collect all possible information in regard to membership and I presume it will be enough if this is kept in the district. In any case, I would like to know if Government would desire me to send a detailed list of members also.

ANNEXURE A

Khamgaon—

President—S. R. Bhate, Pleader. A reasonable moderate man possessing great influence in the town. President of the municipal committee. Vice-Chairman of the Berar Hindu Mahasabha.

Secretary—D. N. Soman, Pleader, Khamgaon. Intelligent. Moderate means and influence. Of no importance.

Joint Secretary—Ramchandra Sheshrao Deshpande, Pleader, Khamgaon. Intelligent. Moderate means and influence. Of no importance.

Mill master—Dr. R. S. Bhorkar. Very moderate means. Extremist. Was prosecuted for assaulting a policeman, who insisted on admission to a private meeting of the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh. As there was legal flaw, the case was withdrawn.

Office—Mohan Building, Khamgaon.

Malkapur—

President—Gulabrao Bhaurao, Maratha, Pleader of Malkapur. Active. Well-to-do.

Secretary—S. N. Patil, Pleader. Of no importance.

Town President—P. K. Kalele, Pleader of Malkapur. Also president of Hindu Mahasabha. Keeps the funds of Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh, amounting to Rs. 300 with him.

Secretary—G. N. Ghirnikar.

47

Jalgaon—

President—Keshao Kashinath Joshi. Of no importance.
 Secretary—S. T. Didolkar, Pleader. Intelligent but unlikely to take prominent part. Should be watched.

Prominent persons —

V. G. Bhojkar, Pleader. Violent. Important.
 G. P. Pundalik. Cultivator and captain of Swayam Sevak Sangh. Dangerous.

Apart from these office-bearers I attach also a list of important people at various places in the three taluqs, who will have either to be arrested or carefully watched, in the event of Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh giving trouble.

Khamgaon taluq

Khamgaon town—

B. W. Dongre, Pleader. Violent agitator. Member of the Hindu Mahasabha and Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh.
 M. S. Tayade, Pleader. Violent agitator. Member of the Hindu Mahasabha and Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh.
 J. A. Anekar, Pleader. Violent agitator. Member of the Hindu Mahasabha and Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh.
 Hanumanant Jankilal. Violent agitator. Member of the Hindu Mahasabha and Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh.
 Shri Panchlegaonkar Maharaj. The local saint and should not be arrested unless unavoidable. The whole town will follow him but he is amenable to suggestion and is quite non-violent.
 Pannalal Vyas. Leader of Arya Samaj, connected with Hindu Mahasabha and Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh. Violent and dangerous.

Khamgaon town. Goondas—

(1) Ramprasad Kesarichand Khatri, (2) Purushottam Trimbak Pathak, (3) Bulakhidas Mathuradas Gujrathi, (4) Natwarlal Mathuradas Gujrathi, (5) Wasudeo Shankar Deshpande, (6) Murlidhar Govind Darji, (7) Ramlal Hiralal Agarwale, (8) Ramlal Balmukund Khatri, (9) Baban Shrichand Khatri, (10) Pundalik Bansiappa Wani, (11) Digambar Shankar Wani, (12) Naolaji Nathu Gurao, (13) Madhao Shridhar, Brahmin, (14) Hanumant Jankilal Marwadi, (15) Sitaram Gangaram Gavhane, (16) Vishwanath Babarao, Maratha, (17) Kachru Babarao, Maratha, (18) Sahebia Tukaram Yampuri, (19) Tukaram Maroti Badar, (20) Shankar Ramdhan, Maratha,

(21) Balkrishna Rama Wani, (22) Maroti Narayan Sukade, (23) Shankar Baburao Hatmode, (24) Jankiram Pandurang, Kunbi, (25) Madhao Bhagwan, Tongawala, (26) Mahadeoprasad Ganpatprasad Pardeshi, (27) Udit Narayan Ramawatar, (28) Umakant Krishna Sonar, (29) Bhawanisharkar Shrinivas Sharma, (30) Pandit Ratipal Baldeo Pardeshi, (31) Popatlal Ramcharan Bhadbhuj, (32) Madan Suryamal Agarwal, (33) Ambadas Kashiram Lohar, (34) Sunder Dagdu Dalwala, (35) Babu Kashiram Lohar, and (36) Pandhari Tukaram Badar.

Other goondas are of less importance.

The Khamgaon cell of the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh could muster about 300 persons over the age of 17.

Shegaon—

No one of importance. The Shegaon cell could muster about 30 to 40 men. The most prominent would be— (1) H. P. Bhate, (2) B. R. Bhate, (3) V. V. Matkari, (4) Bhumya Ganbar Shingnewar, (5) Kanhaiyalal Balmukund, and (6) Chaturbhuj Sitaram.

Jalamb—

Prominent persons are—(1) D. R. Varangaonkar, (2) Surajmal Badrilal Marwadi, (3) Shankarlal Birdichand, (4) Sitaram Chhotmal, (5) Laxman Jamnadas Marwadi, (6) Kisanlal Badrilal, (7) Sitaram Tukaram Teli, (8) Pandu Sitaram, Teli, (9) Wasantrao Sheshrao Deshmukh, (10) Yeshwantgir Ratangir Gosawi, (11) Kanhoo Ganoo Mali, (12) Mahadeo Hajjam, (13) Punjaji Kisan Teli, and (14) Ukarda Teli.

The cell numbers about 30 to 40.

Matargaon Buzruk—Could muster about 40 to 50 men.

Kherda—15 to 20 men.

Pahur Jira—49 to 50.

Tembhurna—10.

Wasadi Buzruk—10.

Khadatgaon Buzruk—10 to 15.

Hiwra—10.

Warna—10.

Antraj—10 to 15.

Chinchpur—10 to 15.

Lakhanwada Buzruk—10 to 15.

Palsi Buzruk—10 to 15.

There is also some Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh activity in villages Bhalegaon and Alasna.

Malkapur taluq

Malkapur town—

- (1) G. N. Dixit—Violent and most important worker of Malkapur, (2) Damodar Ramnivas Raut—Goonda leader, (3) P. K. Kalele, Pleader—Keeper of Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh Funds, (4) G. B. Metkar, Pleader—Important worker, active, (5) S. N. Patil, Pleader—Active.

The cell at Malkapur contains about 100 members over 17. Certain boys from high school might make trouble—notably (1) Panchabhai, (2) V. G. Fadnis, (3) B. V. Deshpande, (4) M. N. Dixit, and (5) Rajabhau Deshpande.

Motala—About 30 members. The important man is Kashirao Babarao Deshmukh.

Dhamangaon—About 50 to 60 members. Important persons are (1) Gopal Dhondur Seth and (2) Waman Jankiram Wani.

Dharangaon—Membership 30. Important person is Kesheo Zipru Patil.

Advihir—Membership—10 to 20. Important persons are (1) Damoo Zipru Patil and (2) Yadao Vithan Ingle.

Dabhadi—Membership negligible. Important person is Namdeo Khushal Patil.

Kharbadi—Membership 20.
Churaman.

Mahalungi—Membership 10 to 15.
Kesarimal Lachhiram Kalal.

Panhera—Membership 10 to 15. Important person is Laxman Shripat Kunbi.

Pophali—Membership 20 to 30. Important persons are (1) Jagatrao Shankar Patil, (2) Kanusingh Jangrarsingh, (3) Bhagwansingh Pandharisingh, (4) Nimbaji Narayan Patil.

inkhed—Membership 10 to 15.
Krishnarao Ganesh Khekade.

Chawardha—Membership 10 to 15. Important persons are (1) Vithoba Shripat Wanjari, (2) Daulat Narayan Wanjari, (3) Trimbak Narayan Wanjari, (4) Dashrath Maroti Wanjari. These men are dangerous.

Tapowan—Membership negligible. Organizer—Yadao Pandu Patil. Goondas in the whole of this area are (1) Yedu Gambhir Kunbi of Korhala, (2) Waman Jankiram of Dhamangaon, (3) Kesarimal Lachhiram of Mahalungi, and (4) Harsingh Zamsingh of Liha.

- Wadali—Membership 10 to 15. Important persons are (1) Shankar Tukaram Dhade, (2) Wasudeo Waman Dhade, (3) Umraosingh Bankarsingh.
- Rasulpur—Membership 20 to 30. Important persons are (1) Narayan Ramu Patil, (2) Shankar Vithusa Bhaosar, (3) Laxman Raoji, Maratha, and (4) Kashinath Shioram Bhaosar.
- Bhuising—Membership 5 to 10. Important person is Udebhan Ganpat Gond.
- Chandur—Membership 10 to 15. is Shankar Raoji Chimanpure.
- Wadi—Membership negligible. Important person is Govind Anant, Maratha.
- Mamulwadi—Membership 10 to 15. Hanumant Vishnu, Brahmin.
- Nimgaon—Membership 20 to 30. Important persons are (1) Mahadeo Kisan Waghole, (2) Hari Bhagu Mali, and (3) R. mkishen Bapuji, Maratha.
- Alampur—Membership 15 to 20. Important persons are (1) Anandrao Madhaorao Deshmukh, (2) Chahadu Ramu Bhade, and (3) Laxman Tukaram, Kunbi.
- ikodi—Membership 15 to 20. Most important person is Kashiram Motiram Patil, who pays Rs. 1,000 land revenue and will keep the village quiet for Government.
- Porali—Membership negligible. Important person is Manaji Raoji, Maratha.
- Isabpur—Membership 5 to 10. Important person is Bajirao Dattu, Maratha.
- Kolasar—Membership 10. Important persons are (1) Ramkishen Bhojaji and (2) Pandhari Sadu Mali.
- Naigaon—Membership 10. Important persons are (1) Sukdeo Punjaji Mali and (2) Trimbak Nathu, Maratha.
- Dahigaon—Membership 10 to 15. Important person is Hari Govind Bhombre.
- Khumgaon—Membership 10. bhan Sukdeo, Kunbi.
- Matoda—Membership 5 to 10. Maroti, Maratha.
- Wadner Bholji—Membership 15 to 20. Important persons are (1) Dama Sayaji Mali and (2) Damodhar Gangadhar Joshi.
- Nandura—Membership 50 to 60. Important persons are (1) Sampat Maroti Chopde, (2) Wasant Eknath Tare, (3) Premratan Joharmal Marwadi, (4) Yadao Parashram Tamboli, and (5) Premsukh Kanchaiyyalal Marwadi. There are about 15 goondas in Nandura who would be likely to give trouble on behalf of the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh.

Jalgaon taluq

Jalgaon town—Please refer to the names already given for the organizers in Jalgaon. These men are important. Apart from them Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh activity exists at the following villages.

Asalgaon—Membership 40 to 50. Important person is Ramcharan Hansraj.

Pimpalgaon Kale—Membership 30 to 40. Important persons are (1) Dattatraya Gopal Kasture, (2) Anna Bhauji Kasture, and (3) Vishwasrao Ganpatsingh Ingle.

Dadulgaon—Membership 10 to 15. Important person is Bhiku Rama Niwane.

Sangrampur—Membership 20 to 30. Important persons are (1) Kisan Bhagwan Mali, (2) Pandurang Bhagwan Mali, and (3) Abarao Manikrao Deshmukh.

Tunki Jahagir—Membership 20 to 30. Important persons are (1) Trimbak Renukadas, (2) Krishnarao Kadtaji, (3) Devidas Renukadas, (4) Mukunda Parashram, Maratha, and (5) Subhanrao Baliram, Maratha.

Wankhed—Membership 10 to 15. Important person is Maniklal Mulchand.

Eklara—Membership 15 to 20. Important persons are (1) Dadarao Gopalrao, Maratha, and (2) Khushalrao Sitaram, Maratha.

Sonala—Membership 15 to 20. Important persons are (1) Devidas Bhanudas, Brahmin, and (2) Satnarayan Shrinivas, Marwadi.

Jamod—Membership 15 to 20. Important persons are (1) Kalyandutta Lalchand Sharma, Marwadi, and (2) Narayan Gangaram Deshpande, Brahmin.

Warwat Bakal—Membership 5 to 10. Important person is Baliram Nathu Sutar.

There is slight Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh activity at Bhilkhed, Ladnapur, Jastagaon, Kaothal and Durgadait.

ANNEXURE B

1. Buldana district Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh: President—R. V. Deshmukh, landlord of Mehkar. Previously a Congressman and for some time a Hindu Sabhaite. Retired from politics since the last five years. Office—One of the rooms of the Buldana Co-operative Central Bank.

2. Chikhli taluq Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh: President—Mr. Kavimandan, Pleader—Belongs to no party.

3. Chikhli town: President—Dr. R. N. Daga. Previously a Congressman.

4. Mehkar taluq Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh: President—M. R. Saoji, Pleader. Previously a Congressman.

5. Mehkar town: President—L. B. Saoji. Previously a Congressman.

ANNEXURE C

Particulars of Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in the Buldana district.

Name of organization and station-house	Present strength	Financial position	Member-ship increasing or not	Activities or observance of restrictions	Appreciation of the extent, influence of the organization and whether actually or potentially dangerous
Janetal		Good	tionary	Nil observed.	No influence. Not dangerous.
Amdapur			Increasing	As usual observed.	Branches open at Mangrul. Isoli, Vairagad, Warwand and 4 other villages. Has some influence but not dangerous.
	40	Poor	Decreasing	Do.	Has some influence, but not dangerous.
	100	No funds	Increasing	Do.	Branches are at Bosh Bk., Bara Khd., Hiwra Bk. and Bhalgaon. Some influence over the public but not dangerous.
Dhamangaon		Do.	Do.	Do.	One Narayan Telang of Akola had come here and increased the membership. Not dangerous.
Nandura		Good		Do.	Has got influence. Not dangerous at present. The daily attendance and membership steadily increasing.
Deolgaon Raja ...			Do.		No influence. Not dangerous at present.
	Poor		Slightly increased.	Do.	Members being small boys have no influence. Not dangerous.
Lonar			Recently started.	Do.	Has some influence. May join communal troubles, otherwise not dangerous.
Tamgaon		Rs. 50 fund	Increasing	Do.	Branches are at Tunki Bk., Sonala, Jamod, Rudhana, Barwat, Bakal, Wankhed and Eklara. No influence and not dangerous.
Borakhedi		Nil			No influence. Not dangerous.

53

Name of organization and station-house	Present strength	Financial position	Membership increasing or not	Activities or observance of restrictions	Appreciation of the extent, influence of the organization and whether actually or potentially dangerous
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Chikhli	.. 155	Nil	.. Slightly increased.	As usual observed.	The branches are at Ambasi Sarna and Kin-hola. Has influence and not dangerous, but is viewed with some suspicion as it is well armed at Chikhli proper.
Kingaon Raja	.. 60	Ordinary	.. Increasing	Do.	Branches are at Sonoso, Sathegaon, Malkapur, Sindkhed. No influence and not dangerous.
Andhera	.. 125	Nil	.. Do.	Do.	Branches are at Ancharwadi, Shelgaon, Mera Bk. and Isrul. No influence and not dangerous.
Khamgaon	.. 300	Ordinary	.. Do.	Do.	It has got some influence in communal feelings but not dangerous at present. Has dangerous potentialities being well trained and well equipped.
Jalgaon	.. 192	Nil	.. Do.	Do.	Has got influence. At present not dangerous but it is apprehended when Hindu Mahasabha would start movement. Branches are at Asalgaon, Pimpalgaon Kale and Kherda.
Malkapur	.. 300	Good	.. Do.	Do.	It has got some influence but not dangerous.
Buldana	.. 100	Poor	.. Do.	Do.	The members are being enlisted in villages and has got some influence but not dangerous.
Hiwarkhed	.. 60	Good	.. Do.	Do.	Has got influence and dangerous.
Mehkar	.. 450	No funds	.. Slight increase.	Do.	Has got influence but not dangerous. Branches are at Dongaon, Anjani Bk., Belgaon, Shelgaon and Deolgaon Mali.
Fattekherda	.. 40	Poor	.. Do.	Do.	The members are mostly Brahmins and communally troublesome.

YEOTMAL DISTRICT

D. O. No. 13-B, dated Camp Gawari, the 5th January 1943,
from the Deputy Commissioner, Yeotmal

I enclose herewith my report on the organization, membership and the activities of the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh in the Yeotmal district, as required by you in your D. O. No. 1465-890-Con., dated the 19th October 1942. I very much regret the delay.

*A report on the Yeotmal District Rashtriya Swayam
Sevak Sangh.*

1. *Its territorial structure.*—The provincial organization has its headquarters at Akola, and the district organization is subordinate to it. The district organization's jurisdiction extends over the whole of the Yeotmal district except Pusad taluq which is attached to Basim. The district is divided up into three ilakas, viz., (1) Yeotmal and Pandharkawada taluqs, (2) Darwha taluq and (3) Wun taluq. Village and town Sanghs are directly subordinate to taluq Sanghs.

2. There are in all 53 branches, spread all over the district. Of these 23 have been organized within the last two years. The largest number of branches is to be found in the jurisdiction of the Wadki and Pusad Station Houses.

3. *Membership.*—It is broadly of two kinds, viz., active members and sympathisers. The latter are those who subscribe to the creed of the Sangh and its policies and render financial assistance from time to time. Active members are those who undertake the full training provided by the Sangh and are pledged to carry out the behests of its leader. The total number of members is 1,833.

4. *Office-bearers and organizers.*—The pattern of the organization is based on the Italian Fascist party, and I am told, largely owes its inspiration to Dr. Moonje's visit to Italy in 1932. Thus the elective and the committee principles are non-existent. Organizers and office-bearers are appointed by the Sar Sangh Chalak who is now Mr. Golwalkar. He appoints the provincial Chalak who is Mr. S. A. Sohoni of Akola and the district Chalak who is Mr. B. H. Jatkar, Pleader and M. L. A. The Sar Sangh Chalak also appoints the ilaka Chalak. Mr. G. T. Kunte is the Chalak for Yeotmal and Pandharkawada ilakas, Mr. M. N. Dau for the Darwha ilaka and Mr. D. D. Deshmukh for the Wun ilaka. Mr. Shukla is the Chalak for Pusad ilaka. The district Chalak appoints Chalak for other village and town Sanghs; but it would appear that Chalak have not been appointed for all the Sanghs in this district.

The training of active members is divided up into three sections—intellectual, physical and military. In the past it was usual to place officers separately in charge of each of these sections. Dr. S. K. Kane (District Organizer of the National War Front) was, and perhaps still is, the district officer commanding in charge of the military section but since the ban on military exercises, separate officers do not appear to have been appointed.

Instead, secretaries are assisting Chalks at important centres, and instructors are nominated to instruct the active members in physical exercises and lathi drills. The names of some of the prominent workers of the Sangh are given below. The District Superintendent of Police has, of course, compiled a list of all the active workers in the district :—

- (1) Mr. L. K. Oke, Pleader, Yeotmal, (2) Dr. P. V. Deshmukh, Yeotmal, (3) Mr. P. R. Ballal, Pleader, Yeotmal, (4) Mr. D. N. Yadwadkar, Instructor, (5) Mr. N. G. Deshpande, Yeotmal, (6) Dr. V. J. Ghawde, Pandharkawada, (7) Mr. Y. G. Shekdar, teacher, Pandharkawada, (8) Bapurao *alias* Ganesh Chintanian, Brahmin, Wadhona, (9) Mr. S. L. Bhedi, Wun, (10) Mr. N. N. Deshpande, Pleader, Wun, (11) Mr. T. R. Pathak, Pleader, Pusad, (12) Mr. D. B. Jakate, Mulawa, (13) Moreshwar Govind, Brahmin, Mulawa, (14) Ganesh Shankar Pande, iwara, (15) Moreshwar Mahadeo Pajaki, Parwa.

6. *Its objective.*—The organization is imbued with the belief that India belongs to the Hindus and its destinies must therefore be moulded by them. In order to enable the Hindus to do so, it is necessary for them to have a well-disciplined party organized on military lines. The Sangh has no ostensible political affiliations. An ex-Congressman like Mr. Jatkar and a National War Front worker like Dr. Kane, are both its enthusiastic supporters. Its aim appears to me to organize Hindus in order to prevent political power from falling into the hands of non-Hindus.

7. *Its activities.*—Military drills and exercises have been completely given up. The use of uniforms has been abandoned. 16 branches are completely inactive. The remaining 37 branches hold regular games, lathi drills and physical exercises. All members are expected to attend daily. All members are under an oath of secrecy and they undertake to help members of the Sangh in their difficulties. Discipline is strict and the feeling of *esprit de corps* is strong. Flag salutations are held occasionally and a rally is organized every year at headquarters. The last district rally was held during the Christmas holidays and was attended by 700 volunteers, which is a record figure for this district. Attempts are being made to expand the organization further into the interior and to open more and more village branches. Emphasis is placed on discipline and training in non-lethal weapons. The Yeotmal, Wun and Pusad branches are particularly well-organized.

8. *Financial resources.*—These are negligible. It lives from hand to mouth and raises whatever money it needs from sympathisers. Some Izardars in the Wun area are known to have contributed handsomely but, at headquarters, most of the money comes from Maharashtra Brahmins.

9. *General.*—The leadership is almost exclusively provided by the Maharashtra Brahmins. But it appears that the Sangh is now attracting, at any rate in its lower ranks, other Hindu castes. Some teachers of the district council are known to be taking an active part and a few pleaders at taluq and district headquarters are taking considerable interest in its activities.

EXTRACTS FROM HALF-YEARLY REPORT ON VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS FROM MAY TO NOVEMBER 1942

R. S. S. Sangh.—Membership of this organization steadily increased during this period from 25,059 in May to 32,090 in November. Marked increase occurred in the following districts as will be seen from the comparative statement below :—

Nagpur : May 1942—6,400; November 1942—7,000.

Wardha May 1942—3,000; November 1942—4,000.

Nimar May 1942—1,117; November 1942—2,343.

Akola : May 1942—2,030; November 1942—3,330.

Buldana May 1942—2,194; November 1942—3,222.

As many as 46 new branches were opened during these six months. The number in the women's branch of the Sangh, known as Rashtriya Swayam Sewika Sangh, increased from 500 to 800.

The financial position of the Sangh is believed to be sound. In addition to the permanent deposit of Rs. 20,000 in the Provincial Co-operative Bank, funds are collected every year by way of subscriptions and donations from members and sympathisers on the occasion of the celebration of the "Guru Dakshina" ceremony. This ceremony could not be performed in Nagpur this year due to the disturbances in August 1942 and the consequent ban on meetings. In Nagpur a sum of Rs. 17,000 was collected by November 1942. The total amount collected by other branches in the province was Rs. 16,181. Activities were mainly confined to the performance of physical drill and lathi-kathi exercises. Officers' training camps were held in the province from 3rd May to 8th June 1942 at Nagpur, Wardha, Raipur, Khandwa and Akola. Volunteers from different parts of India attended the camp at Nagpur as detailed below :—

Punjab—100, Delhi—250, Sind—50, Madras—100, Karnatak—100, Maharashtra—100, Calcutta—15, Berar—25, and Nagpur—250. Total—990.

The attendance at the Wardha camp was 600, Raipur 330, Khandwa 640, and Akola 690.

The general programme at the various camps consisted of parades, band classes, instructions in lathi drill, physical drill, lezim, swimming and skirmishing. The evenings were generally devoted to discussions and lectures on various subjects such as Hindu unity, enlistment of members, difficulties in training officers and the political situation. On the final day of the Nagpur officers' training camp, members gave an impressive display of lathi, lezim and sword exercises before an audience of 5,000 including 500 women. Explaining the aims and objects of the Sangh, M. S. Golwalkar, the chief organizer, said it was not their intention to come into conflict with other communities but merely to strengthen the Hindu community and dispel from Hindus' minds the fear of aggression. Public demonstrations of physical exercises were also given on the termination of camps at Wardha, Raipur and Khandwa.

"Dasehra" and the "Guru Dakshina" ceremonies were performed at Wardha, Jubhulpore, Amraoti, Badnera, Raipur, Khamgaon and Yeotmal.

The ban on the wearing of uniform and the performance of drill of a military nature were generally observed though infringements were reported in Raipur and Hiwarkhed (Akola).

At meetings of the Sangh speakers urged members to keep aloof from the Congress movement and these instructions were generally observed except at Chimur (Chanda), Amraoti and Saugor, where some members were arrested for participation.

An incident of some interest occurred on the 3rd September at Khamgaon (Buldana) when the local branch, complete with a squad of cyclists, divided into three groups and performed an attack on a hill ending with a lathi charge. This was, according to a member questioned, in preparation for the Hindu Mahasabha joining the Congress movement and followed the ultimatum given by the All-India Hindu Mahasabha that they would start direct action if Government did not form a national government.

Six

RASHTRIYA SWAYAM SEWAK SANGH OFFICERS' TRAINING CAMP HELD AT NAGPUR IN 1943

Officers' training camps are conducted every year by the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in every summer for 40 days with a view to train competent instructors and organizers to carry on the uniform programme of running the branches and to see that they keep well flourishing. These camps are opened at important centres to suit the convenience of the members of the Sangh all over India. This year these camps were ordered to be held at the following places and the centres were increased due to economic condition and transport difficulties :—

- (1) Nagpur, (2) Jubbulpore, (3) Amraoti, (4) Belgaum,
(5) Benares, (6) Poona, (7) Trichinapoly, (8) Indore,
(9) Baroda, (10) Meerut, and (11) Nasik.

The third year class was conducted in Nagpur for members all over India and the first and the second year classes were opened for Nagpur, Bhandara, Chanda and Andhra (Madras) at Nagpur, while at other centres only first and second year classes were opened and the members residing in the vicinity were ordered to attend the same.

Batches of ten trained volunteers each were sent by the Nagpur head office for the centres outside Nagpur to train the members attending the classes there.

The officers' training camp at Nagpur commenced on the 3rd May 1943 under the direct control of V. D. Kolte, Advocate of Bhandara, who was known as "Sarwadhikari" (Officer in charge). The following members were prominent to train the members attending the classes :—

- (1) Shreedhar, *alias* Baburao Sheshrao Pandharipande,
(2) Chandrashekhar Parashram Bhishikar, (3) D. B.
alias Anna Shesha, (4) Keshao Ramchandra Vakil,
(5) Gajanan Joshi, (6) N. A. Udhoji, Pleader, (7)
Waman *alias* Appa Shende and others.

The following number of members from all over India received training :—

- (1) C. P. Marathi and Hindi—200, (2) Bombay Presidency—160, (3) United Provinces—35, (4) Central India—20, (5) Madras Presidency—101, (6) Delhi Province—20, (7) The Punjab—30, (8) Bihar—10, (9) Sind—4, (10) Bengal—3, (11) Chanda—30, (12) Bhandara—20, and (13) Nagpur (district)—440.
Total—1,073.

Outsiders were lodged at the Neill City High School, Nagpur, City College, Itwar Darwaza Primary School, Mahal Primary School and Hindu Girls' School, under the direct control of Messrs. W. G. Watwe, D. B. *alias* Anna Shesha, Ram Jangade, D. B. *alias* Anna Sathe and Hattekar, respectively. Baburao Telang used to supervise all the lodging arrangements.

Medical department was in Udhoji's Bada in Circle 6 under Bhiwgade, teacher, Primary School, Nagpur. Dr. L. V. Paranjpe rendered medical aid to sick members with the assistance of Messrs. B. G. Pande, B. A. Vaidya and others.

Messing arrangements were common at Salubai Mohite's Bada (Sangh building) where a pandal for the same was erected. This mess arrangement was directly under the management of Baburao *alias* Kamlakar Vinayak Wagh.

N. G. *alias* Ianasaheb Telang was treasurer. All the outside members were first asked to deposit all valuables including money with him and to draw the amount as per daily need according to the savings bank system. This was done to avoid thefts, etc.

The members attending the officers' training camp were divided into sections of 30 to 35 members each to facilitate training and taking care of them by the member in charge.

The members were given training in lathi, drill, physical exercises, etc., both in the morning and evening at the Reshimbag Sangh ground. The intellectual discourses were arranged and M. N. Kale, general secretary, was in charge of the same.

This year the Sangh had opened a censorship branch and the orders were issued to all the members attending the camp to send their letters through this branch for scrutiny before they were posted for despatch to avoid writing of suspicious or objectionable matter through letters, so that it may not be detected by the Government censors at the post offices.

This year the camp was conducted only for thirty days and the closing ceremony was performed privately on the 1st June 1943 at the Reshimbag ground where about 1,500 members including 75 ladies witnessed the function. Prominent among these were :—

- (1) Krishna Vallabha Prasad *alias* Bhabuaji of Gaya, (2) M. S. Golwalkar, (3) M. P. Jog, (4) M. N. Ghatate, (5) U. Mishra, Registrar, Nagpur University, (6) Tej Narayen, Advocate of Lucknow, (7) Appaji Joshi, Wardha, (8) Baldeo Prasad Mishra, Raipur, (9) Appaji Halde of Mohpa, (10) Sham Rao Deshmukh, Killod, (11) V. D. Kolte, Bhandara, (12) G. Narayen Rao, M.A., L.T., headmaster, Hindu College High School, Guntur (Madras), (13) Dr. T. Chitanandan, L.M.P., Guntur (Madras), (14) K. Hunmantrao, teacher, Guntur, (15) Janardhan Rao, M.A., L.T., LL.B., headmaster, Elementary School, Ongole, district Guntur (Madras).

The closing ceremony was marked with the flag salutation ceremony by M. S. Golwalkar, Sar Sangh Chalak. After that the display of drill, physical exercises was arranged and the function came to an end after about an hour of its commencement, without any speech which used to be made usually. None of the members attended the function in uniform. The Government's restrictions on uniform were duly observed.

On the 2nd morning M. S. Golwalkar delivered a short speech at the Neill City School hall advising the members leaving the officers' training camp after training, to utilize the knowledge gained for fostering the brotherly feeling, unity and maintaining the solidarity of Hinduism and to increase the membership of the Sangh. All the volunteers attending the camp dispersed by the 3rd June 1943.

It is learnt that a collected sum of Rs. 1,411 was paid to M. S. Golwalkar as "Guru Dakshana" on the 2nd, by the trainees who had come to receive the training from outside. This money will be utilized for the Sangh propaganda work.

The Sangh had arranged for grain through the leading malguzars, viz., M. N. Ghatate, M. G. Chitnavis and others. The expenses over this camp estimated to about Rs. 15,000 (Rs. 11,000 over messing and Rs. 4,000, miscellaneous expenses).

Every member had to pay Rs. 22 each over his boarding and lodging while the member who took his meals at his private place had to pay Rs. 3.

During the officers' training camp nothing untoward took place except that an accidental fire that broke out in the kitchen on the 31st May was promptly extinguished and there was very slight damage to the pandal.

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**MINUTES OF THE FOURTH SECURITY
CONFERENCE HELD AT NAGPUR ON
8TH AND 9TH MARCH 1943**

Item 7—The Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh.—Provinces, particularly the Central Provinces, Bihar, the United Provinces, Bombay and the Punjab, regard the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh as a harbourage of considerable potential danger. Alliance with the Hindu Mahasabha, extending in degree to the latter's control, is not doubted, although this has not been proved. The Sangh has been described as the Hindu answer to the Khaksars; it is anti-British; it has shown signs of pro-Japanese bias; in its organization and behaviour Fascist tendencies are obvious.

Provinces are concerned about the rapid increase in the strength of the Sangh. There is no doubt of its growing appeal to Hindu youth, but the reasons for this are not clearly defined in what is known regarding the organization. So far the Sangh has not provoked authority, indeed the impression clings that it has been careful to avoid conflict. It is felt that the true purpose of its being lies in the future and that the revelation will be to the accompaniment of disorder.

Good grounds do not exist now for taking action against the Sangh and the lifting of the ban on the Khaksars does not make the problem easier in this respect. It was suggested, however, that a ban on the training camps of all such organization would hit the Sangh without having to single it out as an object of attack. It was agreed that any other action must immediately be on intelligence lines aimed at removing the present deficiencies in knowledge, and towards this end it was accepted that all the authorities concerned should collect and exchange information of a detailed character about the organization and that all possible means of collecting intelligence, including censorship, should be employed.

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62*

SUMMARY OF THE DISTRICT REPORTS

1. **History.**—The Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh is a militant Hindu Volunteer Corps founded in 1925 at Nagpur by the late Dr. Hedgewar, a Maharashtra Brahmin, who was Secretary of the All-India Hindu Mahasabha from 1926—1931. In 1927 the corps was partly re-organized by Dr. B. S. Munje, the Hindu Mahasabha leader. In 1932 the Sangh was officially recognized by the All-India Hindu Mahasabha and became an all-India organization. Its leader is at present Mr. Madhav Sadashio Golwalkar of Nagpur.

2. **Objects of the Sangh.**—Some reports describe the Sangh as a kind of "pan-Hindu" Boy Scout movement which seeks to protect the Hindu race, religion and culture and regenerate the Hindu community by means of mental and physical training. While some sections of the Sangh still pursue this objective, the Special Branch report for 1942 noticed a swing over to a more militant form of programme. Many Deputy Commissioners report that the main aim of the Sangh is "Hindustan for the Hindus", i.e., an India free from domination by either Muslims, British or any other foreign elements. The Sangh rejects the view that this objective can be reached by non-violent methods. As Mr. Golwalkar said at the Poona Camp in April 1942: "It was not possible to get Swaraj by begging it from foreigners and this could only be obtained by strength; and it was therefore their duty to strengthen the Sangh." To this end the branches of the Sangh practise *quasi*-military drill, enforce strict discipline over their members and employ a uniform very similar to that of the Indian sepoy. The Sangh is not yet completely converted to the new active political programme and many branches and individuals appear to be hanging back. A split of this nature is mentioned at the Gondia (Bhandara) branch. This also is a partial explanation of the varying interpretations of the movement given by Deputy Commissioners and the adherence to the Sangh of many persons such as Mr. Kanitkar of Buldana, who are known to be loyal to Government.

3. **Organization.**—The organization of the Sangh is based on Fascist principles, the elective and committee systems being absent. The Fascist inclination of the Sangh is supposed to derive from Dr. B. S. Moonje's visit to Italy in 1932 and was openly formulated by Dr. P. G. Sahasrabudhe at the Poona Camp in 1942. The leaders of the Sangh (sometimes called organizers) are entitled "Chalak" (the exact Hindi equivalent of the word Fuehrer). The Sar Sangh Chalak of all-India is Mr. Golwalkar of Nagpur. The provincial Chalaks are appointed by him, the Central Provinces Chalak being Mr. R. N. Padhye of Nagpur. The Central Provinces and Berar appears to be divided into at least three divisions: the Hindi Mahakoshal (Chalak—Eknath Ranade of Nagpur), the Chhattisgarh division (Chalak—M. R. Munje), and Berar (Chalak—S. A. Sohoni of Akola). Next come the district Chalaks, also appointed from above, who in their turn appoint the Sangh Chalak, who are in charge of the local branches. Some districts are divided into *ilakas* under *ilaka* Chalaks. At all stages of the hierarchy the Chalak is assisted

by presidents, secretaries or instructors, about whose employment there appears to be no hard and fast rule. The village branches are reported to be not properly organized.

4. Distribution.—Mr. Golwalkar in a speech at Jubbulpore on 25th October 1942 claimed that the Sangh over all India had 1,500 branches and 200,000 members. Reports show a membership of 32,090 in upwards of 400 branches in this province. Considering the strong Central Provinces predominance in the leadership of the organization it is surprising that the numbers of this province form such a small proportion of the whole and there is probably some inaccuracy in one or other set of figures.

The Sangh has a strong Maharashtrian flavour, evidenced by the use of Shivaji's ochre flag (Bhagwa Jhanda) as a symbol and the predominance of Maharashtrian Brahmans among its leaders. It is therefore strongest in the Marathi-speaking districts of the province: Nagpur (7,000 members), Wardha (4,000 members), Khandwa (2,343), Amraoti (3,750), Akola (3,330), Buldana (3,222), Yeotmal (1,833), Bhandara (1,200 roughly). It is also strong in Hoshangabad (1,000 roughly) and Raipur (1,000 roughly). Apart from these districts the Sangh is felt to be a political menace in other districts where its membership is still fairly small, especially in Saugor (400), Jubbulpore (950), and Balaghat (200). The only districts where Sangh activity is entirely negligible are Drug, Betul and Mandla.

In nearly every district the Sangh is pursuing a programme of expansion, especially in the villages. This is said to be due to the programme laid down by Dr. Hedgewar that 3 per cent of town-dwelling Hindus and 1 per cent of villagers should belong to the Sangh. In the quiescent district of Drug the divisional Chalak Ranade attempts to increase activity and other propagandists are sent from Nagpur to places like Mandla and Betul. The movement is aimed particularly at youths and students but comprises also large numbers of adults. Out of the 7,000 members in Nagpur district only 2,000 are reported to be youths. There is a women's branch of the Sangh known as the Rashtriya Swayam Sewika Sangh, but its membership is only about 800.

5. Funds.—The financial position and arrangements of the Sangh are not easily discovered because of the secrecy with which most of its activities are carried out. On the whole its finances appear to be sound. They are collected partly from private sources and partly from the annual collections made from members of the Sangh on "Guru Purnima" day in August. There are divergent accounts of the manner in which these subscriptions are distributed between the local branches and the district, provincial and all-India organizations. There is at any rate no support for the Intelligence Bureau, Home Department's statement that funds are strictly controlled from the centre and that no branch is allowed to keep more than Rs. 200. The Khandwa district Sangh is reported to possess Rs. 1,000 and Malkapur branch has Rs. 300, while Deputy Commissioner, Wardha, states that the local branches keep their entire collections. This is not borne out by the report from Nagpur and Jubbulpore which implies that the Guru Purnima collections there are on a district basis. Headquarter, Nagpur, maintains a permanent deposit of

Rs. 20,000 in the Provincial Co-operative Bank. In addition the proceeds of the annual collections (in 1942 amounting to Rs. 33,181), which are partly devoted to current expenditure, are held separately by individual branches and, at Nagpur (where the annual collection in 1942 is estimated at Rs. 17,000) in the Provincial Co-operative Bank and with Saukars such as Mr. Ghatate and Mr. Chitnavis.

6. R. S. S. Sangh and other organizations.—The affiliation of the Sangh to the All-India Hindu Mahasabha is sometimes denied, but as stated above the Hindu Mahasabha accorded recognition to the Sangh in 1932 and leading Mahasabhaites such as Dr. B. S. Munje play a prominent part in its activities. It may be noted that the Sangh was used to police the Mahasabha session at Nagpur in 1938. Locally the Mahasabha and the Sangh are often found to be closely connected. Apart from Hindu Mahasabha associations, the Sangh is in places supported by Congressmen and at many places, especially in Marathi-speaking districts, by moderate and pro-Government elements like Rao Bahadur Khare of Amraoti and Mr. Kane of Yeotmal. This diversity of supporters is explained by the transitional state of Sangh policy, the extreme tendencies of which have not yet universally permeated the organization. Some branches on the other hand are markedly anti-Congress and some individual members are also anti-Government.

7. Policy.—On the whole even the extremist elements in the Sangh are not in favour of immediate overt action. Their policy is to wait until they themselves are better prepared and the state of the country offers better opportunities for intervention. Thus the general view of Deputy Commissioners is that the Sangh, though not now dangerous, might become a menace later in times of serious communal disturbance, etc. On the other hand Deputy Commissioners, Akola and Amraoti (both strong branches), report that the Sangh is neither actually nor potentially dangerous. In the meantime the Sangh tries to keep in Government's favour. In spite of some local exceptions the Sangh has on the whole observed the restrictions on military drill and uniform. As a body the Sangh remained aloof from last autumn's disturbances though, as might be expected, individual members and even branches took some part in them at some places. In October 1942 Mr. Golwalkar at Jubbulpore went out of his way to claim that the Sangh was completely non-political, a statement quite inconsistent with his speeches at the Poona Camp of April 1942 as reported in Intelligence Bureau, Home Department's Secret Memorandum, Appendix B. It is a part of the Sangh's policy to cover its activities with a cloak of secrecy.

8. Activities and training.—Active members of the Sangh (many members are merely passive supporters) undergo a three-year course of training. This includes physical exercise by means of drill and games and weapon training in the use of lathis, daggers, spears and lezim. Until the orders forbidding military drill the Sangh also practised drilling in military formations, guard mounting, etc. Many branches maintain bands consisting of drums, trumpets, fifes, bagpipes, etc., and orders are given by means of bugle calls. Emphasis is also placed on mental training, *i.e.*, discipline and education in the objects of the Sangh,

and in the nature and problems of induism. Many Deputy Commissioners report that a high level of drill, discipline and *esprit de corps* is maintained. A feature of the training is the annual officers' training camps lasting a month or more held on an all-India basis at Nagpur or Poona. Officers' training camps serving 5 or 6 districts are also held, as at Raipur (attendance 330), Wardha (600), Khandwa (640), and Akola (690) in 1942. In addition the districts have their own rallies. An oath is administered to all members of the Sangh by which they swear to gain freedom for the Hindu nation, by keeping intact the Hindu religion and to perform the work of the Sangh honestly and disinterestedly. Deputy Commissioner, Yeotmal, also reports that members are bound to secrecy. Shivaji's ochre flag "Bhagwa Jhanda" is flown at parades and ceremonial occasions. The Sangh celebrates five main festivals:—

- (1) Til Sankrant—January; Hindu New Year—April.
- (2) Guru Purnima—August. (3) Rakshabandhan—July.
- (4) Dasehra—October. (5) Ramdas Nawami—Shivaji's Birthday.

Sangh volunteers also participate
festivals.

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APPENDIX

Miscellaneous Special Branch reports on the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh and Hindu Mahasabha, 1942

HINDU MAHASABHA, 1942

In January, Dr. B. S. Moonje and other prominent leaders advised the Hindus to join the Army in large numbers with a view to learn the use of arms and tactics of war to be able to defend India from external aggression and internal rapacity of the Muslims. Government was accused of spurning the assistance offered by the Sabha and it was alleged that communal tension became acute since 1939 on account of the Government of India Act. Government and not the Muslims, it was averred, fostered Pakistan. Gandhi's theory of non-violence and the idea that Swaraj was impossible without Hindu-Muslim unity were ridiculed. Gandhi by his insistence on Hindu-Muslim unity, it was stated, had "puffed up" the Muslims and encouraged Jinnah to make the preposterous demand for Pakistan. Bihar Government was subjected to scathing criticism all over the provinces for banning the Bhagalpore Session of the Sabha to be held in December 1941, and satyagrahis who defied the ban were congratulated on their return. Defiance of the ban and fearlessness of the Government authority were advocated to be a mark of victory for the Hindu Mahasabha. At Wardha, Kesheo Chimote averred that branches of Hindu Mahasabha existed in Tokyo and Malaya while M. D. Kolte said that one Harikrishna Verma ordered his volunteers to arrest the District Superintendent of Police and a sergeant who went to arrest him. In Amraoti, B. G. Khaparde stated that the Japanese and Germans were friends of Indians and at Buldana H. N. Gokhale stated that the Hindu Mahasabha did not want to fight against Germany but to expel the Muslims when British Government in India was wiped off by Germany.

In February, at the "Yadna" performance at Khamgaon, attended by 30,000 Hindus from various places, Savarkar stated that "Yadna" would burn untouchability in its holy fire and that the Hindus would more than ever dominate Indian politics. Pakistan was condemned and Congress was invited to join hands with the Hindu Mahasabha. The audience was urged to burn their bonds of slavery in the "Yadna" fire and stated that the function amply demonstrated Hindu solidarity.

In March, at the second Yeotmal Hindu Mahasabha Conference, held at Pusad, and attended by Dr. S. K. Kale, B. V. Hardas and other provincial leaders, resolutions to enrol 5,000 Hindu Mahasabha members in each district and opposition to Pakistan scheme were passed, and it was decided to collect Rs. 1,250 for Hindu Mahasabha propaganda work. At a meeting at Darwah, Hardas described the British outrages during 1857 mutiny, and stated that the British were more cruel than the Germans, and the Hindus had to fight against the British and the Muslims in order to obtain freedom. In Raipur, at a meeting, V. G. Deshpande in an impressive speech, invited the attention of the audience to Savarkar's call "to give your lives and to take the lives of others"

67

In April, at a meeting at Ballarshah (Chanda) W. S. Aole urged the audience to join the Hindu Sabha and to form Ram-sena. At a meeting at Akola, S. W. Kelkar condemned Imperialism and congratulated all the party leaders on their rejection of "Cripps' proposals" which were designed to disintegrate and revolutionize India. In Nagpur, at a meeting of 3,000, Moonje appealed to Government to arm the people and fit them for guerilla warfare. The Hindu Mahasabha at Nagpur decided to form Hindu Saurakshak Dal to assist the people in case of air raids and other disturbances.

10th May was observed as the "Independence Day" and the "Anti-Pakistan Day" all over the province and several meetings were held to condemn the Pakistan scheme which was alleged to have been fostered by the British Government in order to be able to continue the old policy of divide and rule. On this occasion, in Nagpur, the members of a "Pheri" carried a Bhagwa flag and placard on which the words "Defeat the Scheme of Pakistan" was inscribed. Others carried black flags and shouted anti-Pakistan slogans. Speakers reminded the audience that 10th May marked the day in 1857 when Indian sepoys made an effort to overthrow the foreign rule. The Jubbulpore Nagar Hindu Mahasabha was reconstituted in May for the duration of war as the "war emergency measure". In Chanda, at a meeting, A. M. Siras, the president, delivered a defeatist and objectionable speech and said that the Hindus should not allow the Muslims to rule in the Punjab and Bengal. A new branch of Hindu Mahasabha was opened at Lasura Khurd (Buldana). M. S. Tayade, at a meeting at Mehkar, urged the Hindus to join the Army and advised the audience to enlist in the Rakshak Dals, Civic Guards, etc., to be able to deal with lawlessness when chaos prevails. Several meetings were held to celebrate Savarkar's 59th birthday anniversary.

In June, at a private meeting at Nimar, a resolution was passed urging the Hindus to unite and carry sticks for self-defence. At Pusad (Yeotmal) at a meeting, T. G. Pande criticised the Nizam's Government for its treatment of Yeshwantrao, in jail, and warned the government to behave or else the whole India would offer satyagraha. A resolution to this effect was passed.

In July, R. N. Kolharkar, the secretary of the Hindu Sabha, Akola, was suspected of fixing inside a local press an anti-Muslim poster which caused considerable sensation among the Muslims. He also made a propaganda at Akola that picketing at grain shops should be started if local merchants failed to sell grain at the controlled rates. The Hindu Mahasabha at the outset considered the Congress resolution to be a political stunt and opined that it would not bring any good to India. Later, expressed sympathy with it.

In August, Tilak Jayanti was observed in several places in Buldana, and other districts too. The life of Tilak was eulogized and at Malkapur enlistment in the Army was advocated to protect the motherland and Hindu religion.

In September, *Shakti* of Jubbulpore published an article appealing to the people to build up an anti-Pakistan front and called for volunteers for this purpose.

6 3

Hindu Mahasabha Leaders, Organizers and Propagandists, Central Provinces and Berar

Nagpur

Dr. Balkrishna Sheoram Munje.
Vishnu Ghanshyam Deshpande,
Provincial Hindu Mahasabha.
Dr. Laxman Wasudeo Paranjpe.
Purushottam Bhaskar Bhawe.
Gajanan Vishvanath Ketkar.
Balaji Venkateshastri Hardas.
Madhao Narayan Ghatate, Working Presi-
Executive Council, Central Provinces
thi Hindu Mahasabha, 1941.
Gajanan Ramchandra Deshmukh.
Ramratan Divanji.
Madhao Gangadhar Chitnis, President,
tive Council, Central Provinces
Hindu Mahasabha, 1941.
Bindu Mahadeo Puranik.
Narsingdas Rajaram Deshpande *alias* Pachle-
gaonkar.
Govindrao Hari Telang.
Bhaiyaji Parnandiwar Chitnavis.
Balkrishna Vinayak Wagh, Secretary, Nagar
Hindu Mahasabha.
Harikrishna Verma, Secretary for Ramsena,
1941.
Narayan Keshav Behere
Appaji Ramchandra Tijare.
Ramchandra Balaji Maokar, Organizing Secre-
tary, Provincial Hindu Mahasabha.

Wardha

Manohar Balkrishna Deshpande.
Raghunath Amrut Mande.
Ratnakar Vishnu Karandikar.
Trimbak Khanderao Gandhi.
R. S. Deshpande.
R. N. Deshpande.
Gajanan Ambadas Amraotkar.
Gangadhar Baliram Deshmukh.
Moreshwar Damodhar Kolte.
Balwant Ragho Deshmukh, Leader.
Hari Krishna Joshi.

Chanda

Baburao Aole.
Vasant Agre.
Dr. Shankar Sitaram Vaidya.
Waman Sitaram Aole.
Anna Murlidhar Siras.

Chhindwara

Shankar Ramrao Bakhre, of Pandhurna.

Jubbulpore

Dinanath Chidda, Secretary, Nagar Hindu
Mahasabha.
Gyanchand Verma.
Nathuram Shukla, Secretary, Mahakoshal
Provincial Hindu Mahasabha.
Jivanlal Saraf, Secretary, Nagar Hindu Maha-
sabha.

Jubbulpore—cont.

Saugor

Davendra Nath Mukherji.
Bhaiyalal Parmanad Saraf.
Dwarkanprasad Shrivastava, Leader of Damoh.
Anandilal Hazari Dube.
Vidyardhar Shastri.
Chhanulal, of Damoh.
Raghunath Singh of Hatta.
Dr. Bhaganwandas Guru of Damoh.
Ramkrishna Pande, Secretary,
Hindu Mahasabha.

Hoshangabad

Ramchandra Sharma.
Sakharam Dube, Presi District Hindu
Mahasabha
Deshpande, Pleader, Secretary, Nagar Hindu
Mahasabha.
Annasahib *alias* Shridharrao Naik, of Harda.
Dinkarrao Bankwar.
Lachman Diwekar.
Choudhary Daulatsingh, President,
Hindu Mahasabha.

Nimar

Nil.

Bilaspur

Trimbak Rao.
Trimbak Yadao Dehankar.
Pandarnath.
Shivanand *alias* Bachchu.

Drug

Nil.

Bhandara

Gajanan Balkrishna Deo, Secretary, Nagar
Hindu Mahasabha.
Gopal Ramchandra Vyavhare.
Dr. Gajanan Venkatesh Dau.
Damodhar Murari Khaparde.
Rambhau (Mahar).
Ramchandra Diwakar Phatak.
Shankar Ramchandra Shrivasti.

69

Balaghat*Nil.***Akola**

Parashuram Chintaman Joglekar,
Vidarbha Hindu Mahasabha.
Rambhau Narsinha Kolharkar,
Nagar Hindu Mahasabha.
Vinayak Krishna Soman.
Dr. Narhar Shivram Paranjpe.
Sadashiv Waman Kelkar.
Vinayak Krishna Deshpande.
Trimbak Ganesh Vaidya.
Premraj Balaya Telanga.
Dr. Shankar Sitaram Kulkarni.
Vijay Shankar.
Kashinath Vithal Sahasrabudhe.

Buldana

Purushottam Shivram Shekdar of Khamgaon,
Secretary, Vidarbha Provincial Hindu Maha-
sabha, 1942.
Pannalal Sheoram Vyas of Khamgaon, Presi-
dent, Hindu Mahasabha, Khamgaon.
Vishnu Ramchandra Modak.
Janardhan Atmaram Anekar of Khamgaon,
Venkatesh Soman of Mehkar.
Hari Balwant Dande of Mehkar.
Manjitrao Sadasheorao Deshmukh of
Laxman Mukund Kate.
Laxman Anant Sonatkar.
Bhaskar Santh Paithagaonkar.
Gangadhar Madhav Deshpande of Fatter-
kherda.
Ramchandra Anant Kanitkar.
Laxman Anant Deshpande.
Birdichand Hiralal.
Krishnarao Bhalchandra Mule.
Vishnu Ganesh Kawimandan.
Vithal Narayan Soman.
Yadao Madhao Kale.
Somkant Raoji Bhate of Khamgaon.
Namdeo Dulaji Akale of Nandura.
Subhan Yadaorao Deshmukh.
Chintaman Vishwanath Garde.
Hari Narayan Gokhle.
Ramrao Trimbak Kate.
Dr. R. L. Mohril of Lonar.
Trimbak Madhao Rao Molkar.
Sadashiv Balwant Dande of Mehkar.
Waman Vithal Datar.
Govind Nilkant Dixit.
Mahadeo Sakharam Tayade.
Baburao Wamanrao Dongre.
Narhar Shivram Paranjpe.
Purushottam Krishna Kalele.
Dr. Madhusadan Joshi.
Vinyak Raghunath Agarkar.
Harishankar Dongarkar, President, Hindu Maha-
sabha Branch, Lasura.
Tulsiram Wango and Onkar Govind Patel,
Secretaries, Hindu Mahasabha Branch,
Lasura.
Dr. Shankar Sadasheo Kulkarni.
Raghunath Martand Rajdharkar of Mehkar.
Onkar Narayansingh, Secretary, Khamgaon,
Hindu Mahasabha.

Buldana—cont.

Jotishchandra Kailas. handra, Joint Secretary,
Khamgaon Hindu Mahasabha.
Dr. Ramchandra Khedade and Dr. Ramdayal
Daga (Included in Rashtriya Swayam Sewak
Sangh list).

Yeotmal

Dr. Siddhanath Krishnakant Kane.
Laxman Rajaram Garodi.
Shinkar Sakharam Sarnaik.
Bhimrao Hanumantrao Jatkar.
Dr. Yadao Shrihari Yane of Wun.
Ganpatrao Nilande.
Waman Krishna Dani.
Laxman Kashinath Oke of Yeotmal.
Vithal Nagaiya Kondawar of Wun.
Dr. Laxman Balwant Bahadre (Bahadure ?) of
Pusad.
Vishnu Waman Bhawe.
Ramchandra Gangadhar Bhagwat.
Shankar Sadashiv Katpotal.
Govind Venkatesh Sakhle.
Ambadas Sadashiv Padhye.
Ganpat Deo.
Gangadhar Wanere.
Balwant Athalye.
Shrikrishna Deshpande.
Shankar Gunwant Kani.
Sitaram Laxman Bhedi.
Govind Jairam Dhume.
Krishnarao Ballal.
Tukaram Pathak.
Prabhakar Madho Deshpande.
Dr. Bhaskar Mahadeo Tembe.
Govindrao Hari Chouhan.
Govind Vinayak Deshmukh.
Laxman Vithal Kondawar.
Tukaram Nagoram Pande.
S. K. Kape, President, Yeot
Mahasabha.

Amraoti

Balkrishna Ganesh Khaparde, President, Vid-
arbha Provincial Hindu Mahasabha, 1942.
Narayan Ramlingam Bamangaonkar.
Ramchandra Anant Kanitkar, Vice-President.
Baliram Nagorao Ekbote, Vice-President.
Dr. Ganesh Martand Pimparkar.
Mahadeorao Deshmukh of Talegaon, President,
District Hindu Mahasabha, 1942.
Vishwanath Ketkar.
Laxmikant Manohar Deshpande.
Damodhar Sheoram Sekdar.
Purushottam Ramchandra Parnerkar.
Sadashiv Keshav Chimote.
Narayan Venkatesh Deshmukh, President,
Paratwada Town Hindu Mahasabha, 1942.
Govind Narayan Kanitkar, Vice-President, Parat-
wada Town Hindu Mahasabha, 1942.
D. S. Shekdar, Joint Secretary, Vidarbha Prov-
incial Hindu Mahasabha.
Dhondopant Laxman Limaye, President, Am-
raoti Hindu Mahasabha.
Madhao Gopal Talvelkar, Vice-President, Am-
raoti Hindu Mahasabha.
Madhao Yadaorao Deshpande and Laxmikant
Madhao Deshpande, Secretaries, Amraoti
Hindu Mahasabha.

Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, 1942.

Dr. B. S. Moonje, the acclaimed leader of the Hindu Mahasabha, frequently visited the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh volunteers and repeatedly told them that Hindustan belonged to the Hindus and that it should be retaken from the British. At the annual district camps held at Nagpur, Bhandara, Balaghat, Raipur, Bilaspur, Amraoti, Yeotmal, Buldana and Chanda, in December 1941, leaders appealed for unity and organization among the volunteers and for increasing the membership and the funds of the Sangh.

In February, at Talegaon Dassasar, Rs. 80 were collected and leaders begged for liberal donations.

In March, Hindu New Year's Day was observed in almost all the districts and speeches on the utility of the Sangh service were made and parades and drill exercises were held. At Jalamb (Buldana) at a meeting of 200, S. R. Bhatia of Khamgaon advocated solidarity in the Sangh which was a defensive organization against the Muslim goondas. Some of the miscreants in the Sangh at Khamgaon (Buldana) assaulted a police constable because he happened to be a Muslim. They were prosecuted.

In April, a camp was held from 3rd to 5th at Antarbhel (Chhindwara) and about 800 volunteers attended. M. S. Golwalkar, the chief organizer of the Sangh, in his speech referred to the war and said that Hindu women were likely to be molested and hence to prevent their honour he asked the volunteers to move from village to village forming Sangh and enlisting volunteers.

In May, G. S. Paramarth of Nagpur, at a meeting at Wardha attended by about 600 people, warned the audience to be ready to meet Muslim goondaism during the impending pandemonium due to war conditions. Officers' training camps were held at Nagpur, Wardha, Akola, Nimar and Raipur with great enthusiasm. Volunteers from other provinces also joined in Nagpur camp and distinguished leaders and organizers visited the several camps. The object of the camps was to train volunteers and make them efficient organizers for spreading Sangh activities everywhere. This object of the camps was materialised as several branches were opened all over the province and specially in Nagpur district where the total number of branches and membership are 301 and 8,000, respectively. In Nimar the membership was doubled. In Akola camp the volunteers joined in observing Anti-Pakistan and Independence Day.

In June, at the closing of the officers' training camps, remarkable demonstrations in lathi, sword and lezim drill were given at Nagpur, Wardha and Raipur before a considerable gathering, and at Nagpur, Mr. Golwalkar while speaking on the aims and objects of the Sangh said that it had no intention of coming into conflict with any other community.

In July volunteers trained at Akola started training a batch of about 200 at Umerkhed (Yeotmal) and convened propaganda meetings in the interior of the district. Villagers and particularly

Harijans were persuaded to enlist as volunteers. Rambilas Nathmal Daga of Chikhli (Buldana) in a speech vehemently advised the volunteers not to be content merely with lathi and spear exercises but to learn the ways and means to free the motherland. This speech marked the drifting away of the Sangh leaders into politics, which, they had so far maintained, had no bearing on the Sangh. Leaders hereafter and conspicuously in Buldana district warned the people that Government was becoming weaker and weaker daily and pointed out to the Sangh as the only organization in the country which would protect the Hindu community and Hindu religion from external aggression and defy goondaism in times of anarchy.

In August, at Nagpur, "Guru Purnima" was celebrated and Rs. 100 were collected. In Bilaspur Rs. 8 were collected, and R. A. Nulkar, in his speech on the occasion, stressed on the importance of Hindu religion and the absence of caste in the Sangh. At Chikhli (Buldana) a Lohar was prosecuted under the Arms Act for preparing battle-axe type axe-heads and spears for the local Sangh. Dr. Ramdayal Daga and Dr. Ramchandra Khokade, Sangh leaders at Chikhli, attempted to secretly arm themselves with battle-axes and spears.

In September, "Guru Dakshina" was celebrated in Jubbulpore under the presidentship of R. Tiwari, the local organizer. Purses to the total value of Rs. 2,027 were presented to the Sangh. In Buldana district the membership of the Sangh has considerably increased of late and they have given threats of violence and armed themselves on a large scale. Their activities are kept very secret. It is now alleged that during the recent outburst of the Congress movement the Sangh leaders were instrumental in creating havoc. In Akola Rs. 5,000 are being collected for the Sangh by leaders like K. K. Palsole and others.

Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh Leaders, Organizers and Propagandists

Nagpur district

Madhav Sadashiv Golwalkar, Chief Organizer of All-India Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh.
Umakant Hari *alias* Babasahib Apte, All-India Organizer.
Martand Parashram Jog, Commander-in-Chief, All-India Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh.
Eknath Ramchandra Ranade, Provincial Organizer.
R. N. Padhye, Advoc Chief Provincial Organizer.
Sadasheo Balwant Karkare, Secretary of Provincial Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, 1941.
Govind Sitaram Parmarth, Propagandist.
Punkhraj Oswal, Sangh Chalak, Paraseoni.
Keshav Ramchandra Joshi, Organizer of Kondhali Branch.
Sheshrao Ganpatrao, Organizer of Kondhali Branch.
Narhari Balwant Pathak, Propagandist and Organizer (Mahal Branch).
Nanaji Naik, of Umrer, Branch Organizer.

Nagpur district—cont.

Se'h Shrikrishna, of Kondhali, Branch Organizer.
Ranjorsingh, of Dhapewada, Branch Organizer.
Narhar Balaji Parkhi, Instructor, Summer Camp, 1942.
Mukunda Haribhau Munje, Instructor, Summer Camp, 1942.
P. N. Ambekar, Instructor, Summer Camp, 1942.
Moreshwar Ramchandra Pi
Krishna Mulmule, Katol.
Madhav Bapat,
Manohar P. Deo.
Manohar Bendre.
Balwant Jageshwar Ginate, Katol.
Dattatraya *alias* Dattu, Organizer.
Malharrao Kale, General Secretary.
Balasaheb Deoras, Chief Secretary.
Gajanand Prabhakar Telang, President, Nagpur Branch, 1936.
Dattopant Limaye, Vice-President, Nagpur Branch, 1936.

Nagpur district—cont.

Hanumant Vishnu Kulkarni, Vice-President,
Nagpur Branch, 1936.
Narayan Yeshwant Telang, Chief Secretary,
Nagpur Branch, 1936.

Wardha district

Govind Trimbak Sarnis, Sangh Chalak, Hingghat.
Krishna Dajiba Singru, Taluq Sangh Chalak.
Venkatesh Soman, Mehkar.
Shridharrao, Professor, Arts College, Wardha.
Narayan Laxmanrao Kolte, Organizer.

Chanda district

Narayan Pandurang Bhagwat.

Chhindwara district

Sukhnandan Tilakchand, Organizer.
Rameshwar Bania, Organizer.
Bhau Maratha, Instructor.
Gyanchand Sharma of Jamai,
Krishna Kumar.
Ketkar
Gurudeo Koshti, Secretary, Sausar Rashtriya
Swayam Sewak Sangh, 1940.

Jubbulpore district

Kunjilal Dube, District Organizer.
Ramprasad Tiwari, City Organizer.
Shriram Nanhoria.
Pralhad Narayan Ambekar.
Bimal Chandra Banerji.
Dattatre Joshi.
Manoharlal.

Mandla district

Nilkanth Shridhar, President.
Gangadhar Sheshrao Pande, Vice-President.
Vasant Gopal, Secretary.

Hoshangabad district

Govind Krishna Bhuskatte of Timarni.
B. K. Mitwalkar.

Nimar district

V. L. Bedarkar, Organizer.
Dr. Badriprasad Mahodaya.
Dattatraya Balwant Thoke, Master, Commandant.
V. L. Bedekar, Branch Organizer.
Rajaram Gujar.
Narath Gujar.
Jehwardas Bania.

Raipur district

Thakur Parelalsingh.
Tribenilal Shrivastav.

Bilaspur district

Ramchandra Anant Nulkar, Organizer.
Vithal Ramchandra Kale, Organizer.
Gopal Bakare, Instructor.
Hagthamal Seth, Organizer.

Bhandara district

Vinayak Damodhar Kolte,
Summer Camp, 1942.
Au Margu Mahade, Organizer.
R. M. Waikar, Secretary, 1939.

Balaghat district

Pralhad Rajaram Dcopujari, Sangh Chalak.
Dattatraya Deshpande, Instructor.
Ramkishan Bholaram, Instructor, of Katangi.

Akola district

Achut Madhav Khanzode, Captain, Akola
Sangh.
Govind Kesheo Sohani.
Shankar Gopal Dabir, Basim.
Narayan Ramchandra Dhangare.
Shrihar Anant Soni, Organizer.
G. R. Karindikar.
Gajanand Mahadeo Ghatge.
K. K. Palsole.

Buldana district

Pralhad Trimbakrao.
Nago Nathu Deshmukh.
Dr. Janardhan Waman Barde.
Shrawan Narain Patil.
Gulabrao Bhanrao Metkar.
Purushottam Vithal Deshmukh.
Ramrao Kharate.
Purushottam Sadashiv Khedkar.
Madhoraoji Tamboli of Nandora.
Kesheo Kashinath Joshi of Jalgaon.
Dr. Pralhad Madhav Kale.
Ramchandra Nathmal Daga.
Dr. Ramchandra Ganpat Khedkar, Khekadi.

Amraoti district

Appaji alias Hari Krishna Joshi, District Sangh
Chalak.
Ganesh Sheshrao Jadhav, Organizer of Akola
Summer Camp, 1942.
G. N. Kanitkar of Paratwada, Organizer of
Akola Summer Camp, 1942, and Supervisor,
Taluq Amraoti.
R. B. Ramkrishna Moreswar Khare, District
Supervisor.
Laxman Ramkrishna Mote, President, Local
Branch, Amraoti.
Shankar Daulat Gupte, Vice-President, Local
Branch, Amraoti.
Ramrao Raghupat Sardeshpande, Secretary,
Local Branch Amraoti.
Waman Govind Mali, Organizer, Paleskhed,
Chandur.
Sumersingh of Kurha.
Madhorao Sune.

Ycotmal district

Wasudeo Krishnaji, Organizer of Ghatanji
Branch.
Vithal Sadashiv, Organizer of Ghatanji
Branch.
Shridhar Rambhau, Organizer of Ghatanji
Branch.
Trimbak Sakharan Shukla, Organizer of Pusad
Camp.

HINDU SABHA

In this province, the Hindu Sabha has a greater following in Berar. The Hindu Sabha has a provincial branch and the several districts of the province have district and town branches as shown in the statement below. Total membership of the Hindu Sabhaites in the province approximately is 21,634 excluding Amraoti, Balaghat, Betul and Bhandara, the triennium reports of the political and quasi-political societies of which have not yet been received. There are about 67 branches of the Sabha including the provincial and others.

The amount of funds possessed by the organization is not known. The important offices are at Nagpur, Akola, Amraoti and Buldana where it is very active.

Hindu Mahasabha, September, 1942.

District	No. of branches	Strength
Nagpur ..	5	5,125*
Wardha ..	4	..
Chanda ..	7	665
Chhindwara ..	2	30
Betul
Jubbulpore ..	2	600
Saugor including Damoh Sub-Division ..	4	141
Mandla
Hoshangabad including Narsinghpur ..	5	1,273
Nimar ..	2	380
Raipur ..	2	860
Bilaspur ..	1	800
Drug
Bhandara ..	1	..
Balaghat ..	1	..
Akola ..	7	6,654
Amraoti ..	3	..
Buldana ..	15	876
Yeotmal ..	6	1,225
Total ..	67	21,634

*Including Provincial Hindu Mahasabha. Nothing to report.

RASHTRIYA SWAYAM SEWAK SANGH, 1942

In pursuance of its policy of non-participation in politics, the Sangh, till the end of 1941, ostensibly kept itself on the right side of law and far from being embroiled in communal riots. Being a purely communal and secret organization sponsored by the Hindu Mahasabha its final objective is the attainment of "Swaraj" by violently overthrowing the Government.

During the last six months the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh leaders, organizers and volunteers have spared no pains to open up numerous branches in the various parts of these Provinces and inviting villagers and particularly Harijans to join the Sangh. Rambilas Nathmal Daga of Chikhli (Buldana) in a recent speech vehemently advised the volunteers not to be content merely with lathi and spear exercises but to learn the ways and means to free the motherland. The leaders are continually sounding the warning to the people that the Government is

being weakened daily and pointing out to the Sangh as the only organization which would protect the Hindu community and Hindu religion from external aggression and defy goondaism in times of anarchy.

The latest incidents at Chikhli (Buldana) where some axes and spear-heads prepared for the local Sangh were seized from a Lohar and the attempt on the part of Dr. Ramchandra Khekade and Dr. Ramdayal Daga, Sangh leaders, to secretly arm themselves with battle-axes and spears amply prove its offensive tendency to defy the lawful authority and its association with other rowdy elements of the country.

*Memorandum of Government of India, Home Department,
Intelligence Bureau, No. 60-D. G.-42, dated
New Delhi, the 18th May 1942.*

A copy of a note on the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh prepared in this Bureau is forwarded for information.

2. It appears desirable that in future a closer watch should be maintained over this organization than has been the case in the past and that the leaders of the Sangh should be left in no doubt that breaches of the ban on uniforms and drill will not in future be permitted.

RASHTRIYA SWAYAM SEWAK SANGH

The Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh (National Volunteer Corps) is a Hindu Volunteer Corps which can best be described as the Hindu counterpart of the Khaksar movement. It was founded in 1925 at Nagpur (C. P.) by Dr. Keshao Hedgewar, a Maharashtra Brahmin, who was Secretary of the All-India Hindu Mahasabha from 1926—1931. In 1927 the corps was re-organized in the four Marathi-speaking districts of the Central Provinces by Dr. B. S. Moonje, the Hindu Mahasabha leader, to defend the Hindus during communal outbreaks. In 1932 it was accorded official recognition by the All-India Hindu Mahasabha and became an all-India organization. At the end of the same year the Central Provinces Government debarred Government servants from joining or taking part in the activities of the Sangh.

2. **Purpose of the Sangh.**—A report received in 1941 describes the corps as an organization somewhat on the lines of a "pan-Hindu" Boy Scout movement with physical training, discipline and public service as its objects. This impression of the innocuous nature of the organization is by no means uncommon. Its real aims and objects, however, are far more significant. Its ostensible object is to imbue Hindus with a spirit of nationalism and inspire them with self-confidence, so as to make them a great national force. Its real purpose, however, goes further than this and is the attainment of "Hindustan for the Hindus"; to this end it seeks to unify the Hindus, imbue them with a martial spirit, impart military training, build up physique and character and establish a strong and disciplined Hindu militia. It aims at achieving ultimately an India free from both foreign

and Muslim domination. Every candidate for admission to the Sangh is made to take the following secret oath standing under the flag of the organization :—

“Before the All-Powerful God and my ancestors, I most solemnly take this oath, that I become a member of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh in order to gain freedom for the Hindu nation by keeping intact my sacred Hindu religion, Hindu society and Hindu culture. I shall perform the work of the Sangh honestly, disinterestedly, with my heart and soul and I shall adhere to this oath all my life.

‘Jai-Bajrang-Bali-Balbhim-ki-Jai’ ”

In a speech made at Nagpur during the Dasehra celebrations of 1932, Dr. Hedgewar claimed that Hindustan was for the Hindus, that Hindus would dominate the future Government of India and it was for them to say what political rights and privileges were to be conceded to non-Hindu elements. After the Central Provinces Government had issued an order in December 1932 forbidding Government servants to join or take part in the activities of the Sangh, however, Dr. Hedgewar changed his tune and, during the “Til Sankrant” celebrations on January 10th, 1933, he asserted that Government had acted on base insinuations made against the Sangh and denied that it was either a political or a communal body. Sir M. V. Joshi, who presided at the meeting held on this occasion, was unable fully to endorse these remarks and admitted that the Sangh was a communal organization although he justified its existence on the ground that the Hindus should be able to defend themselves in times of stress. He further remarked that the Sangh was opposed to the idea of non-violence. Dr. B. S. Moonje, who also spoke, went even further by favouring offence rather than defence and advocating a policy of “strike first”. At a reception given in his honour on December 11th, 1937, in Nagpur, V. D. Savarkar, the Hindu Mahasabha leader, commended the Sangh and the work of Dr. Hedgewar. He suggested that the Hindus should keep guard over the “thief in their midst”, i.e., the Muslims, and then expel the “foreign dacoits”. At the 1939 Dasehra celebrations in Nagpur, R. N. Padhye, one of the provincial leaders of the Sangh, stated that the objects of the Sangh were :—

- (i) to organize the Hindus of Hindustan irrespective of caste, colour or creed,
- (ii) to create in them a sense of solidarity, and
- (iii) to defend the honour of the Hindu religion and nation at any price.

A few days later, on November 13th, 1939, Dr. N. D. Savarkar, brother of V. D. Savarkar, told 300 Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh volunteers at Nagpur that they were the allies of the Hindu Sabha and the Arya Samaj in the fight against the enemies of Hinduism, viz., the British Government, the Muslims and the Congress. During 1940, speakers continued to draw attention to the communal nature of the Sangh and emphasized its aims to protect Hinduism and prepare a useful

potential force to deal with an expected Muslim invasion on the attainment of "Swaraj." Addressing meetings in the Bombay Province in November 1940, Professor M. S. Golwalkar, the present chief organizer of the Sangh, propounded the pan-Hindu theory of one undivided India under the Hindu rule of the Mahasabha. During 1941 there were many speeches denouncing "Pakistan"

3. Organization.—The Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh is ostensibly an open organization but actually a considerable degree of secrecy is observed. Only members are allowed to be present while training is actually in progress and even Police officers have been refused admission to private grounds where such training was being carried out. The constitution of the Sangh does not appear ever to have been published. The rules have not been made public. No advertisement is given to the names of the office-bearers and the posts they hold. Typical of the air of secrecy which surrounds the organization is the fact that no successor appears to have been announced after the death of the leader, Dr. Hedgewar, on June 21st, 1940. According to a 1941 report of a conversation with one of the members of the Sangh, the activities of the Sangh are open for all to see but the leaders will never speak to any outsider or to any of their own junior members regarding the internal activities or internal principles of their organization.

The headquarters of the Sangh is at Nagpur and the two main centres are at Nagpur and Poona, both in Maharashtra. The Sangh was at first confined almost entirely to Maharashtra and has always been dominated by the Maharashtra Brahmins. In recent years, however, it has spread all over India and there are now branches in the North-West Frontier Province, Punjab, Delhi, United Provinces, Madras, Bihar, Bombay, Sind, Bengal, Central Provinces and Berar, Gwalior, Indore, Hyderabad, Mysore, the Deccan States and elsewhere. It is a custom of the Sangh to announce publicly each year the number of branches and the number of members the organization claims to possess, but no other details are ever given. These claims have grown progressively larger during the past few years. In 1936, 200 branches and 25,000 members were claimed. By 1938 the figures had risen to 350 branches and 40,000 members. Thereafter the yearly claims were 1939: 500 branches and 60,000 members; 1940: 700 branches and 80,000 members and 1941: 700 branches and 150,000 members. To what extent these figures can be relied on is difficult to say, but it does not seem advisable to take them entirely at their face value. It is difficult to reconcile the claim of an increase of 70,000 members in 1941 over the 1940 figures with the fact that the same number of branches was claimed in 1941 as in 1940. The latest official estimate of the strength of this organization, made in November 1941, placed the membership at 17,015 in the Central Provinces, 1,360 in the United Provinces, 3,000 in the Punjab and 13,577 in Bombay Province. There has probably been, however, a substantial increase since this estimate was made, and a very recent report from the Punjab places the present membership in that province at approximately 8,000. The only qualification required for membership is that the candidate must be a Hindu.

While a large proportion of the members join the organization in early youth, there is no age limit. At a meeting in October 1941 in the Central Provinces it was announced that all Hindus between seven and sixty-five years of age were eligible to become members.

Owing to the secrecy which is maintained, the internal organization of the Sangh cannot at present be described with any degree of accuracy. The Sangh appears to be organized on military lines with a civilian secretariat located at Nagpur. The secretariat consists of the leader of the organization, who is the Chief Organizer and Commander-in-Chief, and a number of organizers with their subordinates. The organizers tour all over India establishing new branches of the Sangh and advising, encouraging and controlling the existing branches. There are also provincial organizers for certain provinces and important cities. From 1925 to 1940, the Chief Organizer and Commander-in-Chief of the Sangh was Dr. Hedgewar. Although no public announcement has been made in this connection, there is little doubt that he has been succeeded by Professor Madhav Sadashiv Golwalkar of Nagpur, who was assistant chief organizer during the lifetime of Dr. Hedgewar. A list of the more important members of the Sangh with the offices they hold is given in Appendix A. This list is by no means exhaustive and is subject to verification.

The volunteers are organized in military formations—platoons, companies and battalions—and strict discipline is maintained. The Sangh has its own saffron-coloured flag bearing the word "OM" and known as the "Bhagwa Jhanda"; its own oath, which has been quoted above; and its own uniform. The uniform is almost identical with that of Indian troops and consists of a black cap, khaki shirt with shoulder-straps and R. S. S. S. badges, khaki shorts and khaki stockings. Some branches have been seen wearing ammunition boots and putties. Officers frequently wear Sam Browne belts. The volunteers usually carry lathis, which they are taught to use most effectively. They are also taught to use swords, spears and daggers and are given shooting practice with air guns.

4. Activities and training.—The most important activity of the Sangh is the annual officers' training camp (O. T. C.) held every summer at Nagpur. This camp has expanded rapidly during the last few years; the number of persons who attended in 1938, 1939, 1940 and 1941 was 350, 750, 1,232 and 2,040, respectively. The 2,040 volunteers who attended the 1941 camp came principally from Central Provinces, the Punjab, Bombay and the United Provinces. The camp lasts forty days and the course of instruction includes—

- (a) Squad drill; platoon drill; company drill; battalion drill; sentry duties; guard mounting; musketry with air guns; sham fights and other manœuvres; physical training; and weapon training in the use of lathis, daggers, spears and swords.
- (b) Band section; special police section; and medical corps—consisting of private medical practitioners of Nagpur.

- (c) Mental training, consisting of lectures on the aims and objects of the Sangh, its national outlook and matters such as Hindu Sangathan and protection of Hindu rights.

Training is also given in such subjects as organization, sanitation, distribution of food and rations, first aid and nursing. The training not only aims at building up good physique and active habits on the part of the volunteer but also at improving and strengthening his character by endeavouring to inculcate in him such virtues as patience, endurance, temperance, discipline, morality, punctuality, bravery, moral courage and determination. Attempts are also made to strengthen his religious convictions by developing a purely Hindu outlook through lectures on Hindu solidarity.

Camps similar to those held at Nagpur have also been held at Poona. In addition to these all-India training camps, district branches of the organization hold annual district camps lasting four or five days during the Christmas holidays every year. Apart from the special camps, training continues regularly throughout the year. The Sangh keeps four religious festivals—Navami and Til Sankranti. Of these the Dashehra celebrations are the most important and include an arms worship ceremony introduced by Dr. Hedgewar in 1932. The celebrations on these occasions are similar in form to a military review. Demonstrations of marching drill, physical exercises and displays in the use of lathi, sword, spear or dagger are given and there are speeches regarding the aims and objects of the Sangh, its progress and development. The leaders of the Sangh are shrewd in their selection of the guest of honour at the more important annual functions. Important Hindu leaders are invariably chosen and each year a different province is represented. In this way widespread support is obtained for the Sangh.

5. **Funds.**—The Sangh is believed to be in a sound financial position. In 1938 it was estimated that the funds of the organization amounted to about Rs. 20,000. It was reported that these funds were not deposited in any particular bank but that the money was kept at Nagpur with several local bankers in the names of fictitious persons. This arrangement was adopted after the 1930-31 Civil Disobedience Movement, when Government confiscated the funds of illegal institutions. A 1939 report stated that Rs. 20,000 was kept as a fixed deposit with two Nagpur money-lenders, Chitnavis and Ghatate. Strict control is maintained over the finances of the Sangh and each branch is normally permitted to retain only Rs. 200 deposit. A recent Punjab report, however, indicates that the Lahore branch possesses a balance of Rs. 5,307. The income of the Sangh is derived from subscriptions and donations from volunteers, supporters and well-wishers, usually collected at the annual Guru Purnima festival. The collections so made are known as "Guru Dakshana". Substantial sums are obtained in this way.

6. **Policy.**—The policy of the Sangh is influenced to a considerable extent by its association with the Hindu Mahasabha. Exactly how closely the Sangh is connected with the Hindu Mahasabha is not known, as no public reference to its association is ever made by the leaders of either organization. That

it is close, however, is clear from the respect with which Hindu Mahasabha leaders such as V. D. Savarkar and Dr. B. S. Moonje are treated by the Sangh and the authority with which they make public pronouncements regarding the Sangh. It is also significant that when Dr. Hedgewar died, V. D. Savarkar, as President of the Hindu Mahasabha, instructed Hindu Sabhas throughout India to observe June 30th, 1942, as a day of mourning for him. It is, therefore, necessary to bear in mind that any radical change in the declared policy of the Hindu Mahasabha will probably effect the policy of the Sangh.

In 1939 a reliable report stated that the leaders of the Sangh were not in favour of taking part in any political activities for some years to come as they were of opinion that to take part in any such activity prematurely would mean an end of the institution. Further, the policy of the Sangh was to prepare the Hindu youth for the future struggle for freedom of the country. They had no faith in democracy and believed that freedom could only be won by violence. In 1940 it was reported that at the end of the annual forty days' training selected members of the Sangh are as a rule, tried for a period of three years in different capacities and the most reliable of them are unobtrusively introduced into various departments of Government, such as the army, navy, postal, telegraph, railway and administrative services in order that there may be no difficulty in capturing control over the administrative departments in India when the time comes. This rather sensational inside account of the secret programme of the Sangh cannot be accepted literally, but it can be stated without exaggeration that the Sangh has been for some years working out a long-term policy of steady preparation for the attainment of its ultimate objective of Hindu supremacy.

7. Conduct.—In pursuance of its policy of gradual development and preparation the Sangh has as a general rule taken care to keep on the right side of the law and avoid any clash with authority. There have, however, been two exceptions to this the organization it is inevitable that from time to time some of its members should have been involved in communal riots and incidents. The most recent instance occurred in March 1942, at Jalgaon in the East handesh district of Bombay Province, when two persons were killed and thirty-seven injured. Secondly the Sangh has given cause for complaint in its attitude towards the ban imposed in 1940 on the wearing of uniforms and the performances during the year, viz., Dasehra, Rakshabandhan, Ramdas and of drill. This ban struck at the very core of the Sangh's existence by seeking to suppress those features of the organization which were its chief attractions in the eyes of its youthful recruits, viz., its uniform and its parade-ground activities. While the official attitude of the Sangh to this ban is one of compliance with Government orders, there have been a number of instances of failure to comply either with the spirit or letter of the ban. Such cases have occurred repeatedly in the Central Provinces and occasionally in Delhi, Bombay, Madras, Sind, the Punjab and the United Provinces. Information on record shows that in only three cases have officers of the Sangh been prosecuted (in Bombay, Madras and the Punjab). The Punjab case was under

the Arms Act for unlawful possession of a store of swords and daggers.

From the many instances which might be quoted it is clear that the restrictions on drill and the wearing of uniforms have been publicly disregarded in several provinces. This indicates either an inability on the part of the leaders of the organization to control their members or an attitude of resistance towards regulations which conflict with the interests of their organization. The dangers of such an attitude are obvious. If at any time in the future the Sangh or its political mentor, the Hindu Mahasabha, should decide to follow a policy which would bring them into conflict with Government the leaders of the Sangh would have at their disposal large numbers of well-disciplined and fairly well-trained officers and men capable, as recent years have shown, of rapidly increasing their numbers by training fresh recruits. Apart from repeated disregard of the ban on drill and uniform and occasional precipitation of communal trouble there has hitherto been nothing particularly objectionable about the Sangh's activities, but it is obvious that dangerous potentialities exist. It has been suggested in some quarters that the Sangh has pro-Japanese tendencies. Evidence of this is very scanty and by no means convincing. The most that can be said at present is that the Sangh might be drawn into pro-Japanese activities through its connection with the All-India Hindu Mahasabha, if the latter itself initiates or develops such activities.

APPENDIX A

- (1) Chief Organizer and Commander-in-Chief—Professor M. S. Golwalkar of Nagpur.
- (2) All-India Secretary and Organizer, Poona City—V. G. Apte of Poona.
- (3) All-India Secretary—Madho Rai.
- (4) Touring Organizer—Vyas Deoras of Nagpur.
- (5) Touring Organizer—Yeshwant Telang of Nagpur.
- (6) Touring Physical Instructor—V. V. Gokhale of Nagpur.
- (7) Chief Organizer for Madras Province—G. S. Paramarth of Madras.
- (8) Chief Organizer for Bengal—Raj J. N. Roy Chaudhry of Nakipur, 24 Parganas, ex-President of the Hindu Mahasabha.
- (9) Chief Organizer the Central Provinces—R. N. Padhye.
- (10) General Officer Commanding, Poona—N. G. Abhyankar.
- (11) Officer-in-Charge of the Calcutta Branch—Dr. Santosh Kumar Mukherjee.
- (12) Organizer, Bombay City—Gopal Yerkuntwar.
- (13) Chief Commanding Officer, Bombay City—Dada Nayak.
- (14) Commanding Officer, Bombay City—V. T. Valawalkar.

APPENDIX B

Summary of a report on the officers' training camp of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh held in April/May 1942 at Poona

An Officers' Training Camp of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh was held at Poona from 23rd April to 27th May 1942.

About 1,100 volunteers attended the camp, including fifty members of a special adult class which lasted only a fortnight. The volunteers were given physical training, drill instruction, etc., and also attended a series of mental training classes. The Sangh has a three years' officers' training course, of which the first and second year courses were held at Poona. The final year's course is always held at Nagpur. A list of the camp's instructors is appended, together with translations of the Sangh's special prayer and marching songs and list of its own literature. A summary of the more important points brought out in the daily lectures given at the mental training classes is given below.

2. Yadavrao Joshi of Nagpur, propagandist for the Karnatic Province, on 24th April 1942 stressed the importance of the mental training classes and asked the Sangh volunteers to give up all ideas of individuality, quoting the example of Japan and Germany, where every individual has identified himself with the ambitions of his nation.

K. D Joshi of Nagpur on 25th April 1942 declared that to increase the moral strength of the Sangh the following three things are essential :—

- (1) Enrolment of more members,
- (2) loyalty to the Sangh and its principles, and
- (3) increase in the number of active workers.

3. M. S Golwalkar of Nagpur, the Chief Organizer of the Sangh, addressed the volunteers on seven separate occasions. On 26th April 1942 he said that the Sangh was training volunteers with a view to make them good officers capable of leading the world in any critical situation. This country belonged to the Hindus whose forefathers spilt their blood for its sake. The Sangh was meant for the whole of India and was therefore termed " National " ; but the Hindus alone had so far proved loyal to the country ; therefore they alone were eligible for enrolment to the Sangh. Whoever, forgetting his traditions, joins hands with the enemies should be killed even if he were their own brother, because only he who follows and sticks to their principles would be regarded as their real brother. The mental apathy of the Hindus should be removed and a feeling of hatred towards the men of other religions, who were getting high-handed, should be created in them. The Sangh was doing this work.

On 27th April 1942 he denounced those persons who render every possible assistance to the present Government for their own selfish ends. On 28th April 1942 he declared that the Sangh has resolved to do its duty even though the whole world goes against it and impressed on the volunteers that they must be ready to sacrifice their lives for the cause of the country. On 29th April 1942 he again denounced selfish individualism, quoting France as an example of its ultimate result.

On 3rd May 1942 he made an important speech in which he clearly revealed the communal and Fascist nature of the organization. He said that the Sangh had been started not only for combating

Muslim aggression but for completely extirpating that disease ; it was therefore necessary to have proper men at the helm whose attention should be focussed on the achievement of their goal. The Sangh was resolved to stand on its own legs, not minding any opposition. It was not possible to get Swaraj by begging it from foreigners and this could only be obtained by strength ; it was therefore their duty to strengthen the Sangh. They would not waste their energy but would reserve it and would make use of it at the proper time. He said that they had nothing to do with what the Japanese or the British were going to do but the question was what they should do. The opportunity for which they had been waiting so long had now come and they should utilise this to their advantage.

On 5th May 1942 he said that he was glad to see the war taking place, as the time of their liberation was fast approaching. They had to worship the goddess of war not by flowers but by the sacrifice of lives. They were not afraid of offering sacrifices to the goddess.

4. **Dr. P. G. Sahasrabudhe** addressed the volunteers on three occasions. On 4th May 1942 he announced that the Sangh followed the principle of dictatorship. Denouncing democratic government as an unsatisfactory form of government, he quoted France as a typical bad example and, praising dictatorship, he pointed to Japan, Russia and Germany. He particularly praised the Fuehrer principle of Germany. On 21st May 1942 he drew attention to the value of propaganda, quoting Russia and Germany as examples, and again extolled the virtues of the Leader principle, citing Mussolini's success as a further example.

5. **Dada Parmartha of Nagpur** on 6th May 1942 said that the opportunity, for which they had waited so long, had now come and they should consider the slogan: "Their difficulty is our opportunity". They should hope for a better future and prepare for the worst. This was an opportunity to prove that India belonged to them and this spirit should be created in the community.

N. G. Abhyankar of Poona, while closing the special adult classes on 10th May 1942, said that they must stand on their own legs and not depend on the British Government as this led to a demoralization of society with every individual merely caring for his own comforts.

Bapurao Joshi on 11th May 1942 told the volunteers that in Shivaji's time many persons sacrificed their lives for the Bhagwa flag and the Sangh was preparing thousands of volunteers to do the same ; they should consider the organizer of the Sangh as the representative of the flag and respect him as their "Guru".

6. **V. G. Apte** addressed the volunteers on 12th and 19th May 1942. Referring to the ban on uniforms, he said this would not destroy their martial spirit but it was their duty to see that their organization was kept alive as their lives were meant for the Sangh. They should respect the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the cause of Hindudom.

Dr. Lele of Lucknow on 19th May 1942 painted a lurid picture of a pan-Islamic conspiracy spreading half way round the world, whose object is to convert the non-Muslims to their faith. Among other things he asserted that all Muslim organizations in India have one common object and possess huge funds, that the nations which are assisting Japan in the war are mostly Muslims, that half the Far East is under the green flag of the Muslims, that the Muslims have a fighting force of 55,000 and that in Africa 500 savages are being converted to Islam every day.

7. Lectures on similar lines were also given by the following:—

Bhaurao Abhyankar.

Balasaheb Rege of Nagpur.

Balwant Narain Bhide, Pleader of Poona.

G. M. Joshi.

Appaji Joshi of Wardha.

Appa Pendse.

Vasantrao Deokuli.

Professor S. M. Mate.

List of instructors (1942)

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| (1) Kanade, V. K. | (41) Bhau, M. |
| (2) Gautam, V. D. | (42) Barve, A. |
| (3) Pethe, G. V. | (43) Gadgil, V. |
| (4) Ahtavale, V. G. | (44) Dave, B. V. |
| (5) Natu, M. | (45) Joglekar, J. |
| (6) Oke, V. G. | (46) Matange, M. |
| (7) Gokhale, P. K. | (47) Marathe, A. V. |
| (8) Solapure, M. M. | (48) Athavale, N. T. |
| (9) Batin, S. P. | (49) Godbole, D. G. |
| (10) Mehendale, P. V. | (50) Lele, B. G. |
| (11) Joshi, V. G. | (51) Deshpande, R. D. |
| (12) Dharap, R. | (52) Deshpande, G. B. |
| (13) Chitale. | (53) Gautam, S. D. |
| (14) Deshpande, V. S. | (54) Date, S. |
| (15) Palsule, Bal. | (55) Patwardhan, K. |
| (16) Barve, Madhu. | (56) Gole, P. |
| (17) Gosavi, S. S. | (57) Gokhale, R. K. |
| (18) Deshpande, M. D. | (58) Bapat, Parsuram. |
| (19) Gadgil, P. V. | (59) Mhalgi, R. K. |
| (20) Apte, M. D. | (60) Nirgude, A. S. |
| (21) Page, Vamanrao. | (61) Athavale, A. G. |
| (22) Thatte, Y. | (62) Mahajan, M. |
| (23) Inamdar, M. | (63) Bhat, R. D. |
| (24) Saswadkar, P. | (64) Bhadsavale, S. |
| (25) Joglekar, G. | (65) Kaujigikar, P. |
| (26) Rajput, V. | (66) Bapat, R. |
| (27) Kulkarni, R. K. | (67) Kale, M. |
| (28) Deshmukh, G. | (68) Jogdeo, N. |
| (29) Marathe, V. | (69) Suryavanshi, |
| (30) Bapat, D. M. | (70) Gert, V. |
| (31) Gadre, H. V. | (71) Kulkarni, V. |
| (32) Date, H. V. | (72) Joshi, P. |
| (33) Vaidya, S. G. | (73) Gayakwad, G. |
| (34) Joshi, G. A. | (74) Barve, K. |
| (35) Latkar, M. | (75) Jamdapani. |
| (36) Pendse, V. | (76) Godbole, K. |
| (37) Mahajan, V. | (77) Modak, A. |
| (38) Sovani, D. V. | (78) Kothavale. |
| (39) Vaishampayan, M. V. | (79) Gosavi, Ram. |
| (40) Pimpalkhare, M. | (80) Kelkar, Balasaheb. |

(81) Kanade, N.

Sangh Prayer

(1) I bow always to my dear motherland, which has brought me up in happiness. Oh great auspicious and holy land, may my person have the honour of being sacrificed for your cause!

(2) Oh Almighty! We who form part of the Hindu Rashtra, respectfully bow down to you. We have girded up our loins for your cause, and may you bless us in that undertaking!

(3) Endow us with a divine and invincible power, whereby the whole world would be humble and friendly. May you please make our path passable, which (path) we have accepted voluntarily and which is learnt to be strewn with thorns!

(4) We have taken a heroic vow which is the means for universal progress and salvation. Let our firm belief in that goal increase, and let our minds be ever watchful.

(5) Let our glorious and organized strength be sufficiently able to protect our religion and raise this nation to a high level, with your blessings.

Access to Mother India.

March Song

We are Hindu line brigade with our muskets and blades

And we are going to a country that's far.

We will shout, hear and sing.

Like true soldiers of the realm.

And we have marched to meet the foe in days of yore

On march on march, we are on march.

Soldiers of R. S. S. are on march.

Hindustan the motherland.

Hindustan the fatherland.

Hindustan the holy land.

Literature to be used for Sangh Organization

Lives.

- (1) Life of Chhatrapati Shivaji.
- (2) Life of late Dr. K. B. Hedgewar.
- (3) Life of B. G. Tilak.
- (4) Life of V. D. Sawarkar.
- (5) Life of Shradhanand
- (6) Life of Dayanand Saraswati.
- (7) Life of Lala Lajpatrai.
- (8) Life of Agarkar.
- (9) Life of Ramdas Swami.
- (10) Life of Swami Vivekanand.
- (11) Life of Hitler.
- (12) Life of Mussolini.
- (13) Life of Lenin.
- (14) Life of Mazini.
- (15) Life of Garibaldi.
- (16) Life of De Valera.
- (17) Life of Chiang Kai-shek.

Volumes.

- "Japan's Reorganization".
- "Unity of Cultures" by Prof. D. K. Kelkar.
- "Sawarkar's Literature".
- "Hindudom" by Sawarkar.
- "Sawarkar's Lectures".
- "Literature on Hinduism" by Hindu Bhandar, Nagpur.
- (7) "History of the Sikhs".
- (8) "History of Vijayanagar".
- (9) "History of Turks", by Bhawe.
- (10) "History of Congress" by Pattabhi Sitaramayya.
- (11) "Caution to Hindus" by Savitri Devi.
- (12) "Danger of Pakistan" by Karandikar.
- (13) "Harijan Problem" by Prof. Mate.
- (14) "History of Ireland" by Kelkar.